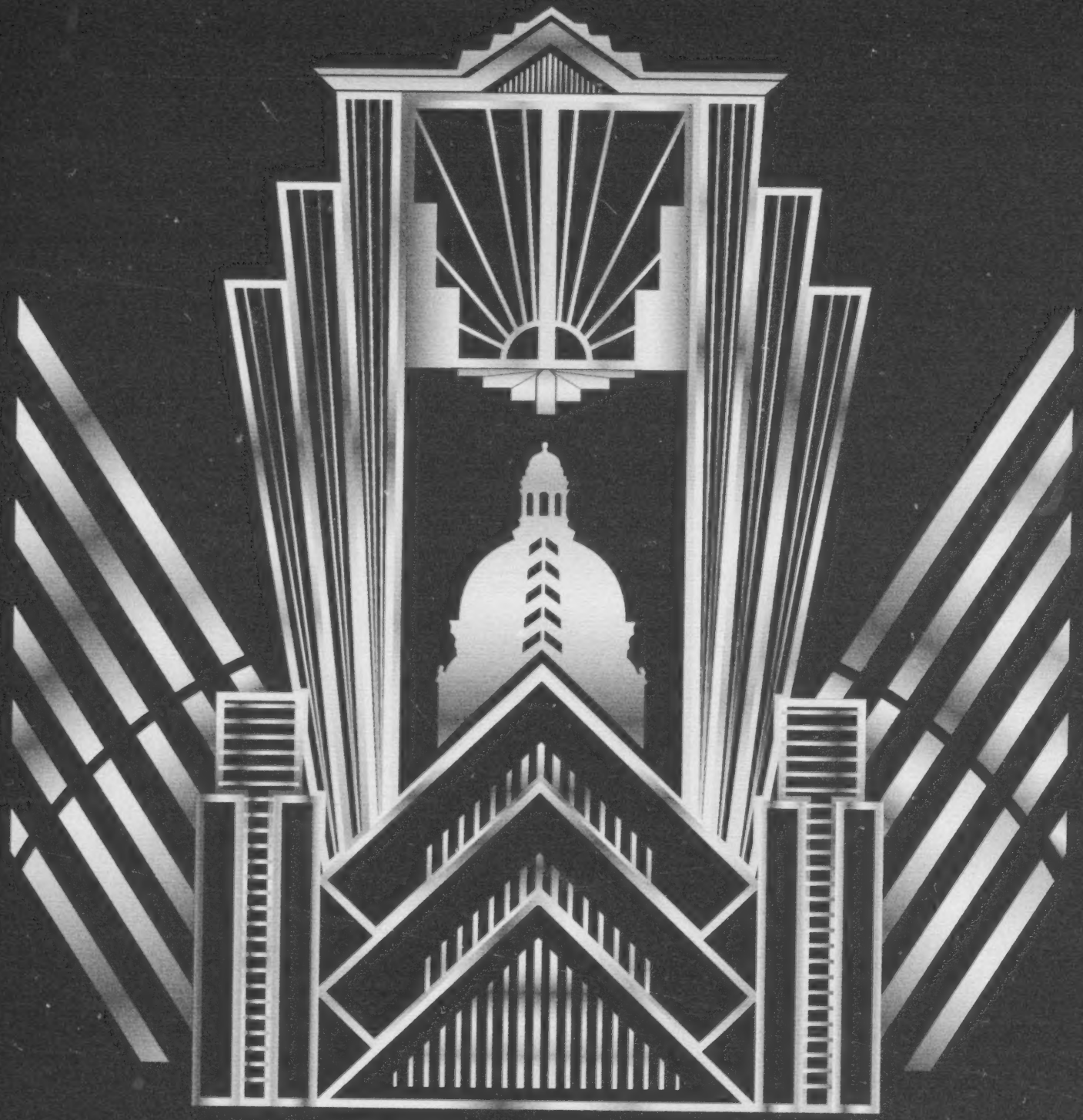

STEWARDS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

Legislative Assembly Office 2014 Annual Report
2014 Annual Report of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Alberta Branch and Interparliamentary Relations

LETTER FROM THE SPEAKER

November 2015

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta:

I am pleased to present the 31st Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly Office (LAO). In addition to documenting the financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014, this report highlights the activities and initiatives undertaken by the LAO in support of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta during the 2014 calendar year. Also found within its pages is the 2014 Annual Report of the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Parliamentary Association.

While my distinguished colleague the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky presided as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and thus oversaw the operations of the LAO for the reporting period, at the time this report was published, I had stepped into the role. It is my pleasure to make this report available to you in my role as 13th Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Honourable Robert E. Wanner | MLA, Medicine Hat | Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

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MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK

For over 30 years, the LAO has been steward of the parliamentary process in the province of Alberta. This considerable responsibility has involved ensuring that the matters of the House are appropriately conducted and that Members and their staff have the resources necessary for them to navigate the parliamentary system and to effectively represent Albertans. This is our unwavering mission, the why behind everything that we do.

A handful of activities from 2014 stand out as having exemplified this role. Perhaps none more so than the guidance we provided to the new Members following the by-elections in four ridings. Working in concert LAO branches provided logistical, procedural and administrative services to orient the Members on their new roles and to ease them through the sizeable transition.

On a similar note, the biannual constituency seminars, which were held in the spring and winter of 2014, brought together constituency staff from across the province to participate in learning and networking opportunities. These seminars have become essential tools for disseminating significant information to constituency staff.

Our role as steward also extends to the citizens of Alberta. Through our support of public involvement in committee activity, we uphold the democratic process; likewise, through our tours and programming, we educate the public on the parliamentary system and encourage active citizenship.

The relocation of our offices to the Edmonton Federal Building and the organizational changes that will follow were also a primary focus in 2014. The move will mark the start of an exciting new chapter in the LAO story, characterized by the creation of new ways for our organization to serve Members of the Legislative Assembly and to educate the citizens of Alberta on the parliamentary system. Our values of improvement, impartiality and integrity will continue to carry our mandate forward, and our newly adopted value of involvement will refocus our priorities into the future. With a projected move date of spring 2015, the next milestone for our organization is within sight.

The LAO's commitment to Albertans is to ensure that our province's parliamentary system is accessible; the possibilities of how we achieve this moving forward are infinite.

Dr. David McNeil, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

OUR MISSION

To provide nonpartisan parliamentary support to the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly as they carry out their roles as elected representatives.

OUR VISION

Respect Tradition

Exemplify Service

Promote Innovation

OUR VALUES

Employees of the Legislative Assembly Office (LAO) are proud to provide services to the Legislative Assembly on behalf of the citizens of Alberta. We are guided in our work and conduct by a core set of principles that motivate us as individuals and reflect the qualities of the Legislative Assembly Office as a whole.

Improvement

Encouraging a commitment to ongoing development of skills and services that enhance the operations of the LAO while respecting the traditions of the office.

Impartiality

Acting in an impartial and objective manner at all times to support the unique and politically neutral role of the LAO.

Integrity

Providing services in an accountable, responsive, ethical and dedicated manner.

Involvement

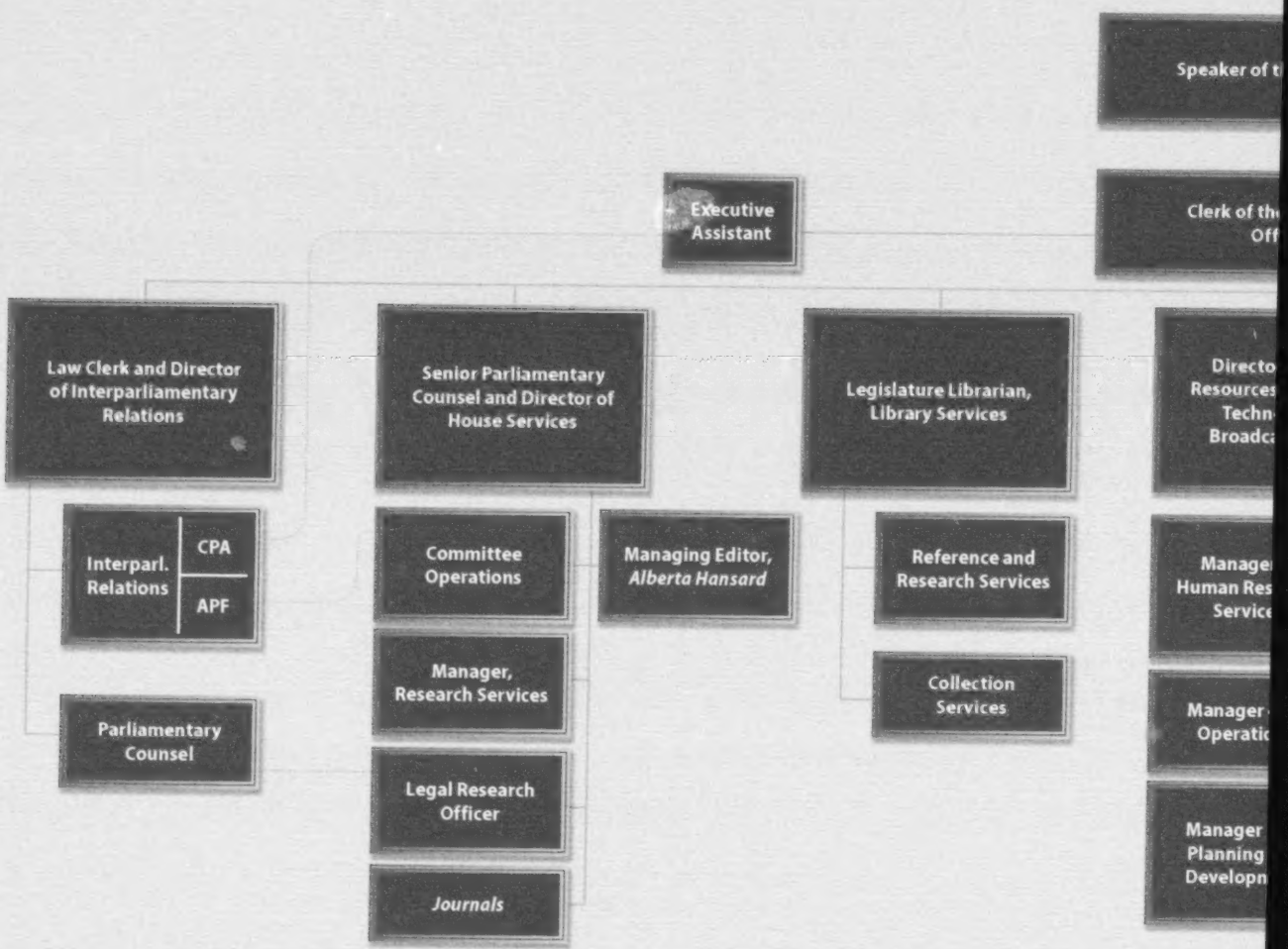
Promoting awareness and engagement in the democratic process.

OUR HISTORY

Established in 1983, the origins of Alberta's Legislative Assembly Office can be traced back to 14th-century England, when Parliament elected the first Speaker and appointed the first Clerk. The Legislative Assembly Office works hard to uphold and abide by parliamentary tradition while at the same time ensuring our operations are run in a nonpartisan manner and respond to the needs of the Members we serve.

It may come as a surprise to some, but the Legislative Assembly Office is not a government department. The government is the executive branch, responsible for applying and enforcing laws, and the Legislative Assembly is responsible for establishing those laws. The LAO is a unique entity separate from government, with the dedication and commitment to provide all Members of the Legislative Assembly, regardless of party affiliation, with the support they need to represent and serve their constituents.

OUR TEAM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Senior Parliamentary Counsel and Director of House Services
Legislature Librarian, Library Services
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Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services

Director of Financial Management and Administrative Services, Senior Financial Officer

Sergeant-at-Arms Director of Visitor, Ceremonial and Security Services

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Security and Ceremonial Services

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OUR SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

The Clerk is the chief executive officer of the Legislative Assembly and has authority and responsibility equivalent to that of a deputy minister. Under the direction of the Speaker the Clerk has both procedural and managerial responsibilities and oversees the delivery of nonpartisan services to Members of the Legislative Assembly and their staff.

The office of the Clerk is responsible for:

- providing advice, research and support to the Speaker and Members on procedural matters concerning the privileges, rules, usages and proceedings of the Assembly and co-ordinating procedural services by other officers of the Assembly; preparing documents of the Assembly and ensuring the safekeeping of the Assembly's documents and records;
- providing all necessary administrative and support services to the Assembly during its sittings and ensuring that essential services are provided to the Assembly Chamber;
- presiding over the election of the Speaker at the opening of a new Legislature;
- announcing the Assembly's order of business and conducting its recorded votes or divisions during its sittings; and
- supervising the officers of the Assembly, including the Director of House Services, Parliamentary Counsel, Law Clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms.

As chief operating officer the Clerk has the following managerial responsibilities:

- directing the operational services of the Legislative Assembly Office;
- authorizing all financial commitments the Assembly enters into;
- directing the preparation of the Assembly's annual estimates and advising the Members' Services Committee in their consideration and approval;
- acting as liaison at the deputy minister level with government departments on matters related to the Assembly, the Chamber and the Legislative Assembly Office; and
- serving as chair of the LAO Executive Committee (Law Clerk, Director of House Services, Sergeant-at-Arms, Director of Human Resources, Information Technology and Broadcast Services, Director of Financial Management and Administrative Services, Legislature Librarian, and Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services).

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Communications Services provides strategic planning, consulting and design expertise to the LAO's internal and external audiences. Communications Services' responsibilities include:

- supporting the organizational goals of the LAO and the mandates of all-party committees;
- delivering professional writing, design and web services in the creation of promotional and educational materials for the LAO;
- co-ordinating social media and media relations and maintaining internal and external websites for the Legislative Assembly; and
- assisting with planning, execution and documentation in support of special events.

BROADCAST SERVICES

Broadcast Services oversees the accurate and high-quality broadcast production of the House proceedings. Additional responsibilities of Broadcast Services include:

- managing the communication of information affecting the broadcast;
- developing guidelines and procedures for broadcast operations; and
- assisting with the co-ordination of remote broadcasts involving external media.

PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL

The office of Parliamentary Counsel is comprised of the Law Clerk, who heads the branch, Senior Parliamentary Counsel, lawyers and staff. The branch provides legal advice to the Speaker, Members, committees and the LAO on a broad range of legal issues, including contract law, employment law and leasing. The office is also responsible for:

- providing legal assistance to Members in the performance of their duties;
- serving as corporate counsel to the LAO in executing contracts and other legal agreements;
- defending and asserting the rights, privileges and immunities of Members and the Assembly;
- assisting Members with administering oaths and using their ex officio notarial powers;
- serving as counsel to the committees of the Assembly, including Members' Services, Legislative Offices, Private Bills and the Legislative Policy Committees;
- aiding Members with the drafting of private

Members' Bills and amendments to all types of Bills as well as providing advice on private Bills;

- approving petitions prior to their presentation in the Assembly; and
- preparing official copies of the Bills enacted by the Legislature.

In addition, some members of the office serve as Table Officers, providing legal and procedural advice in the Assembly.

INTERPARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

Interparliamentary Relations is responsible for organizing Alberta's participation in various parliamentary associations and organizations and managing relations between the Assembly and other Canadian and international parliaments. Responsibilities include:

- co-ordinating the Legislative Assembly's participation in conferences, seminars and exchanges of a parliamentary nature in Canada and abroad; and
- organizing programs for incoming parliamentarians and legislators from around the world.

HOUSE SERVICES

House Services oversees House and committee proceedings and is responsible for the production of various House and committee documents and records, including the official report of the debates of the Assembly and its committees, also known as *Alberta Hansard*, as well as the Order Paper, Votes and Proceedings and the *Journals*. Other responsibilities include:

- providing procedural advice to the Speaker and Members and preparing documents for the daily business of the House;
- ensuring that all administrative, financial and support services are available for the effective operation of standing and special committees of the Assembly;
- providing nonpartisan research and issue analysis as directed and in support of the mandates of the committees of the Assembly;
- processing items to be placed on notice on the Order Paper, including Bills, Motions, Written Questions, Motions for Returns and Motions Other than Government Motions; and
- maintaining custody of current and historical Assembly records.

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Human Resource Services (HRS) provides customized human resource management, compensation and consulting services that enhance overall organizational performance. These services include:

- development and implementation of multidisciplinary human resource strategies to meet operational objectives;
- leadership and advice on human resources related issues such as organizational design and planning, recruitment, talent management and development, employee relations, health and wellness, disability management, Member remuneration and staff compensation and classification;
- management of the integrated in-house payroll and HR systems; and
- ensuring an efficient transition of staff and MLAs at general elections, by-elections and cabinet shuffles.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Financial Management and Administrative Services (FMAS) supports the Speaker, Members and the LAO by providing financial management and administrative services.

Financial Management services include budget preparation, processing of claims, expenses and allowances (Members, caucuses and branches), transaction compliance review and accounting, preparation of monthly reports for Members and branches, preparation of financial statements and co-ordination of the financial statement audit.

Administrative services include furniture, equipment and supplies procurement, co-ordination of telecommunications services, constituency office services (leasing, set-up, moves, et cetera) and property management co-ordination for LAO offices and caucuses.

In addition, FMAS is also responsible for:

- administering the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* as it pertains to the LAO and providing advice and assistance in access and privacy matters for Members and the LAO;
- managing the development and implementation of an information and records management program for the Legislative Assembly and providing advice and support on information records management issues to Members of the Assembly and staff; and
- providing risk management and insurance coverage, advice and claims co-ordination services to Members and LAO branches.

VISITOR, CEREMONIAL AND SECURITY SERVICES

Visitor, Ceremonial and Security Services (VCSS) provides services ranging from developing and managing public programming to providing security services for the Legislative Assembly, its precincts and all constituency offices. In addition, VCSS advises MLAs, constituency staff and LAO employees on security matters, liaises with external intelligence, public safety and security organizations and is responsible for:

- the security arrangements in the Legislature Building;
- directing the LAO security access card program;
- directing the Page program;
- taking attendance of Members in the House;
- providing the care and custody of the Mace and the furniture and fittings of the Assembly;
- directing the operation of the Interpretive Centre and Gift Shop;
- offering services to the public, including guided tours, gallery bookings and educational programs; and conceiving, planning and executing ceremonial and special events.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library Services provides nonpartisan, confidential and timely information, news and reference services to Members and their constituency and caucus staff as well as the LAO. Applying both a traditional approach and the latest technology, Library Services is also responsible for:

- compiling and delivering a customized daily electronic news service to Members;
- responding to Members' information needs through subscription databases and e-books as well as an electronic government documents repository and parliamentary network;
- collecting and providing access to information on public policy matters in areas such as health, law, science, business, environment, energy, social issues and education; and
- preserving and chronicling information about Alberta's history and parliamentary heritage, including data about Members and electoral divisions.

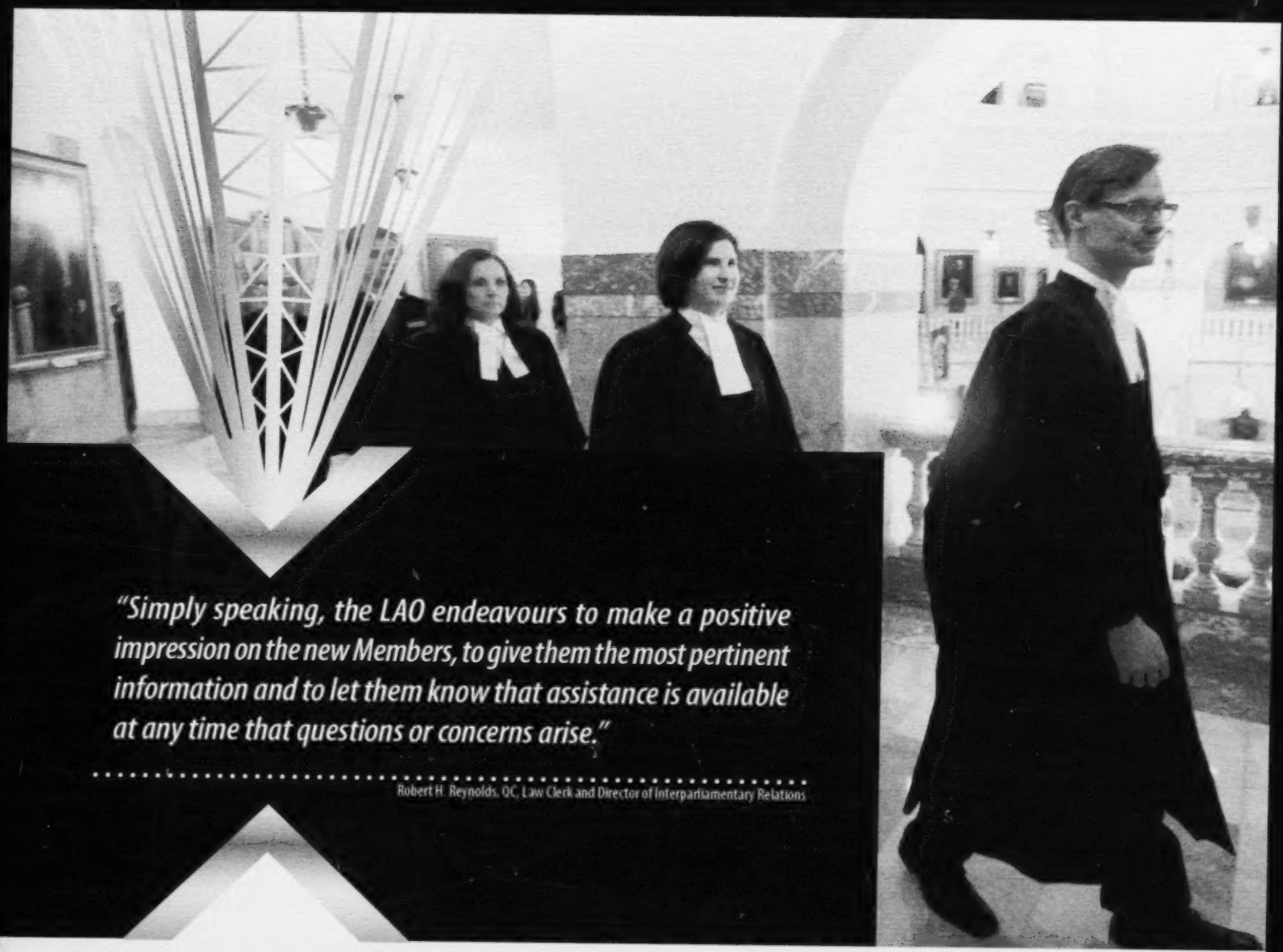
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Information Technology Services (ITS) provides all technology services to the Speaker, Members, caucuses, constituency offices and LAO branches. ITS focuses on introducing the latest in technology to best serve the needs of the stakeholders. Services include:

- acquiring, deploying and maintaining all hardware and software;
- procuring and supporting mobile devices as well as negotiating contracts;
- co-ordinating and delivering IT training;
- supporting all network infrastructure, including network servers, cabling and wireless facilities;
- enforcing policies and guidelines to provide a secure IT environment;
- providing consultation services to analyze business needs and deploy the best technology solution;
- developing and deploying applications on multiple platforms, including desktop and web;
- supporting enterprise applications with a focus on work-flow and integrating with the business processes; and
- supporting audiovisual and multimedia applications, including streaming of House and committee proceedings.

OUR PROGRESS

GUIDING
MEMBERS THROUGH THE 2014 BY-ELECTION
To provide outgoing Members with the support required to complete their service with the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and to give new Members access to advice and resources needed so that they may serve Albertans to their best capacity



"Simply speaking, the LAO endeavours to make a positive impression on the new Members, to give them the most pertinent information and to let them know that assistance is available at any time that questions or concerns arise."

Robert H. Reynolds, QC, Law Clerk and Director of Interparliamentary Relations

When Alberta voters take to the polls, they have an opportunity to select the individuals who will represent them in the Legislature. The passing of Bill 21, Election Act Amendment Act, 2011, ensures that Alberta holds a province-wide general election every four years but should a Member of the Legislative Assembly's seat become vacant during the term, a by-election shall take place.

In October of this year, provincial by-elections were held in the four constituencies of Calgary-Elbow, Calgary-Foothills, Calgary-West and Edmonton-Whitemud and residents cast their votes to choose their new MLAs.

The Legislative Assembly Office (LAO) ensured that important tasks were carried out behind the scenes well in advance of the writ drop. Getting ahead of the game, if you will, allowed staff to properly assist retiring or nonreturning MLAs in completing their departure activities and enabled them to facilitate a seamless welcome (and make a good first impression) for the Members-elect.

Some branches had much to attend to before polling day while other branches needed to await the results of the election in order to offer up their piece of the puzzle. A by-election may be at a significantly smaller scale compared to a general election, but it requires an all-hands-on-deck effort just the same.

To that End: Upon Resignations

The LAO management team reviewed and made updates to the most current dissolution guidelines so that Members were aware of their roles and responsibilities. In essence, the guidelines provided an important summary of what Members could and could not do up until polling day and during the appeal period that followed.

The dissolution guidelines also outlined what services were available to Members and, by extension, to their staff and constituents. As the constituency offices remained operational, support from the LAO continued. Matters of security, for example, were dealt with by the Sergeant-at-Arms' office, and any changes in staffing or office hours needed to be reported accordingly.

Members were also permitted to assist their constituents with nonpartisan issues with the exception of administering oaths and notarizing documents.

Retiring Members, under the guidance of the Director of Human Resources, Information Technology and Broadcast Services, received crucial advice about the array of benefits they would be entitled to after their service was completed. IT Services then ensured that LAO telecommunications remained up and running throughout the election period so that Members could address emergent constituency matters.

In the weeks closer to polling day Communications worked with all branches to ensure that the administrative and procedural orientation materials were up to date and ready for consumption immediately following the by-election and Library Services updated electoral division information profiles for each of the four ridings.

And Back Again: At the Beginning

On polling day LAO staff continued to ensure that crucial components were in place properly to welcome the newly elected MLAs. As voting came to a close, LAO staff along with the rest of the province eagerly awaited the results.

At the end of the evening on October 27, 2014, Jim Prentice, Gordon Dirks, Mike Ellis and Stephen Mandel were named as the four new Members-elect of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

In the days and weeks that followed, the LAO would become even more focused on the post-election hustle and bustle. As is customary following an election, the office of the Clerk was first to meet with each new Member-elect. This was followed by orientation sessions designed to help new Members as they familiarize themselves

with the ins and outs of setting up their legislative and constituency offices. These sessions also provided each manager with an opportunity to give an overview of their branch services and illustrate the various ways in which they can assist the new Members.

Some highlights from these discussions included leasing options and staffing options for the constituency offices, Member allowances, travel expenses, records management and how to manage the transition process from the preceding Member. The post-election period was an exciting and invigorating time, certainly for LAO staff but especially for the newly elected MLAs. Some have likened the overwhelming experience to drinking from a fire hose as Members are faced with a huge learning curve and a very limited time to learn as much as possible. As Members begin to carry out their duties, the LAO provides them with the most pertinent information and resources upfront and makes a commitment to continue applying best practices in delivering services to Members throughout their tenure.

With Challenges Come Rewards

There was so much to impart in a short period of time with competing demands crowding out the information. The new MLAs were dividing their limited time between their caucus, their press engagements and their new constituents, amongst other commitments.

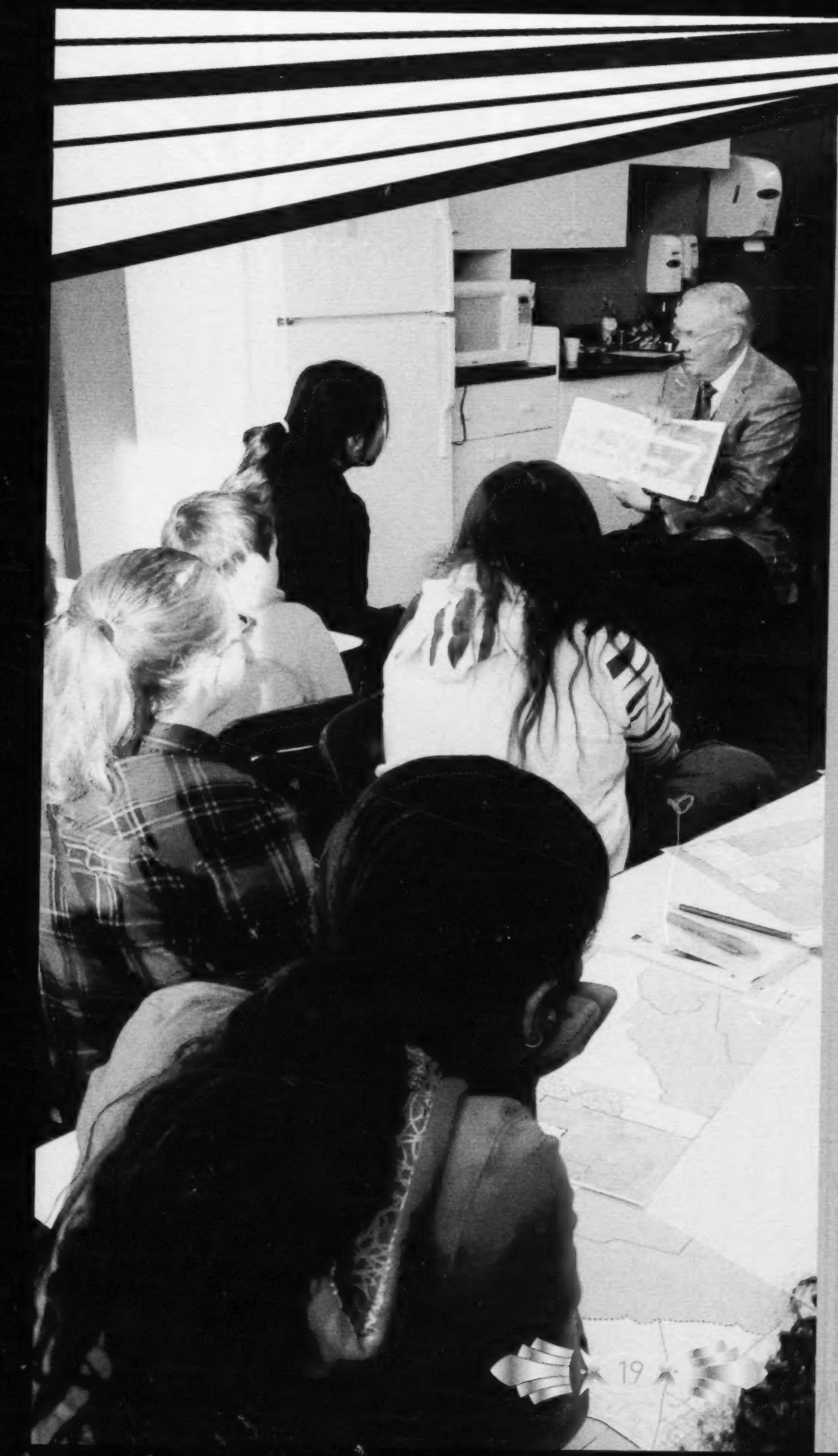
Even as they were being pulled in so many directions, new Members were quick to express their appreciation for the help they were offered.

Sometimes new Members have previously experienced life as an elected official, and their orientation serves as a refresher or a review. Conversely, some Members may have never encountered this kind of environment before, so it can be an overwhelming experience. Most LAO staff would likely agree that the best reward comes from knowing that this sometimes confusing or daunting process has been made slightly more manageable as a result of our collective efforts as an organization.

ENGAGING

ALBERTANS IN THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

To foster an awareness and an understanding of the legislative system through public programming initiatives that encourage participation and active citizenship.



"I love this program. By the end of the week we all felt more ownership [of] the building and were a lot more knowledgeable about provincial politics."

An elementary school teacher

The struggle for democracy is universal and never-ending. Even once achieved, it requires citizen action and engagement in order to endure. The Legislative Assembly's ability to represent its citizens depends on a high level of engagement, but, ultimately, the choice of whether or not to participate lies with each individual. Our goal is to facilitate engagement in the parliamentary system by inviting participation and providing education.

Public Input is Important: Committee Activity

Legislation requiring in-depth examination will sometimes be referred by the House to an all-party committee of the Legislative Assembly for comprehensive analysis and debate. If the legislation that is being reviewed impacts a large segment of the population, the committee may choose to invite public feedback. And when the issue is of great public interest, engagement often takes care of itself. This was the case in a number of instances in 2014.

In its review of Bill 9, *Public Sector Pension Plans Amendment Act, 2014*, and Bill 10, *Employment Pension (Private Sector) Plans Amendment Act, 2014*, the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future held seven public meetings in locations throughout Alberta to facilitate public participation. During the course of the review the committee heard 150 oral presentations and received 460 written submissions on the issue. The meetings attracted a record audience estimated at over 1,000 individuals.

Likewise, when the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future undertook a review of the feasibility of establishing a high-speed rail transit system in Alberta, a small, but passionate segment of the public took an interest. As part of its review process the committee held three public meetings, one each in Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary — the major municipalities along one of the proposed routes. The committee heard 63 presentations from the public and stakeholder groups and received 78 written submissions.

In both cases, public feedback became just as important as expert opinion to each committee's ability to see all sides of the complex issues under review. And a broad spectrum of perspectives is essential when a committee is making recommendations to the Legislative Assembly, the day-to-day activities of which affect every aspect of our way of life today and into the future. It is well worth taking the time to get informed, and keeping up with committee business has never been easier. Citizens who want to keep abreast of an issue under review or remain up-to-date on the general activity of committees of the Legislative Assembly can listen to the audiocast of the proceedings on Assembly Online or read the *Hansard* transcripts posted to the Assembly website. It is that simple.

"The review of Bills 9 and 10 received the greatest public interest and participation of any matter dealt with by a committee of the Legislative Assembly in Alberta's recent history, Public involvement during the committee review process provides valuable perspectives that can't always be accessed through the experts."

Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and Director of House Services

Simple, but important. According to Rhonda Sorensen, Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services, the public has an important role to play in the evolution of governance in our province. She said, "The Legislative Assembly of Alberta is accountable to its citizens in its work, whether in the House or in committee, and as such the LAO ensures that all proceedings are accessible so that citizens may educate themselves on matters of public importance."

We Aim to Make a Lasting Impression: Educational Programming and Tours

There is something magical about a child engaged in learning. Her eyes light up. She grows taller in her chair. She hinges forward, reaching with an upstretched arm to exclaim, "I know, I know." It might come as a surprise to some, but this is a familiar sight at the Alberta Legislature, especially when Grade 6 students participating in the School at the Legislature program (SATL) fill the corridors. Our educational programming is designed to engage the public in the parliamentary system at an early age and to impress upon them the important role that they play in upholding the democratic system, thereby sparking a lifetime of active citizenship.

So how do the LAO's educational programs get Alberta's youth excited about the parliamentary system? According to Al Chapman, Manager of Visitor Services, "When students see the parliamentary process in action, all of a sudden the players become real and abstract concepts tangible, all of which allow students to create meaningful learning connections."

SATL was designed to expand upon the lessons that students are taught in Grade 6, which is when they begin to study government. The on-site classroom immerses Grade 6 students and teachers in our legislative environment for a full five days, during which time they meet with and interview individuals who on a daily basis support the operation of our parliamentary system: the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, for instance. The inquiry-based learning model upon which this program is based encourages active learning and critical thinking, and it is a whole lot of fun. During the five-day program we hope to instill within Alberta's youth a sense of social responsibility and community involvement that they can expand on throughout their life. They are the future of this

province, and in order to make a difference they need to participate.

Building on the lessons of SATL, Mr. Speaker's MLA for a Day program provides insight into the day-to-day activities of elected representatives. This intensive three-day program brings together Grade 10 students from across the province to meet with participating MLAs and to learn about the roles and responsibilities of a provincial representative, both as a legislator and as a constituency representative. Through workshops, personal interviews and mock debate students experience a spectrum of viewpoints on provincial issues and gain an understanding of the complexity involved in being an MLA.

"Engagement in the parliamentary process takes root only when citizens begin to understand that they have a role to play in the success of our democratic system. Through our public programming initiatives we cultivate this understanding."

Brian Hodgson, Sergeant-at-Arms and Director of Visitor, Ceremonial and Security Services

173, 716 Visitors

18, 214 Student Visitors

Similarly, while on tour visitors learn about parliamentary traditions, Alberta's political history and the activity and membership of Alberta's current Legislative Assembly. Our team of Heritage Interpreters deftly navigate the halls of the Legislature and impart through captivating anecdotes the essence of our legislative system and the importance of active citizenship. For instance, did you know that Alberta's Legislative Assembly was the first parliament in the British Empire to have a female Member? Alberta elected two female MLAs in 1917: Roberta MacAdams and Louise McKinney. Alberta's political history is full of such noteworthy accounts. These stories are as inspirational as they are resonant, especially when delivered in context. Al Chapman, Manager of Visitor Services, said, "As home to the parliamentary process in Alberta the Legislature Building and its precincts afford visitors authentic and in-depth exposure to our legislative system."

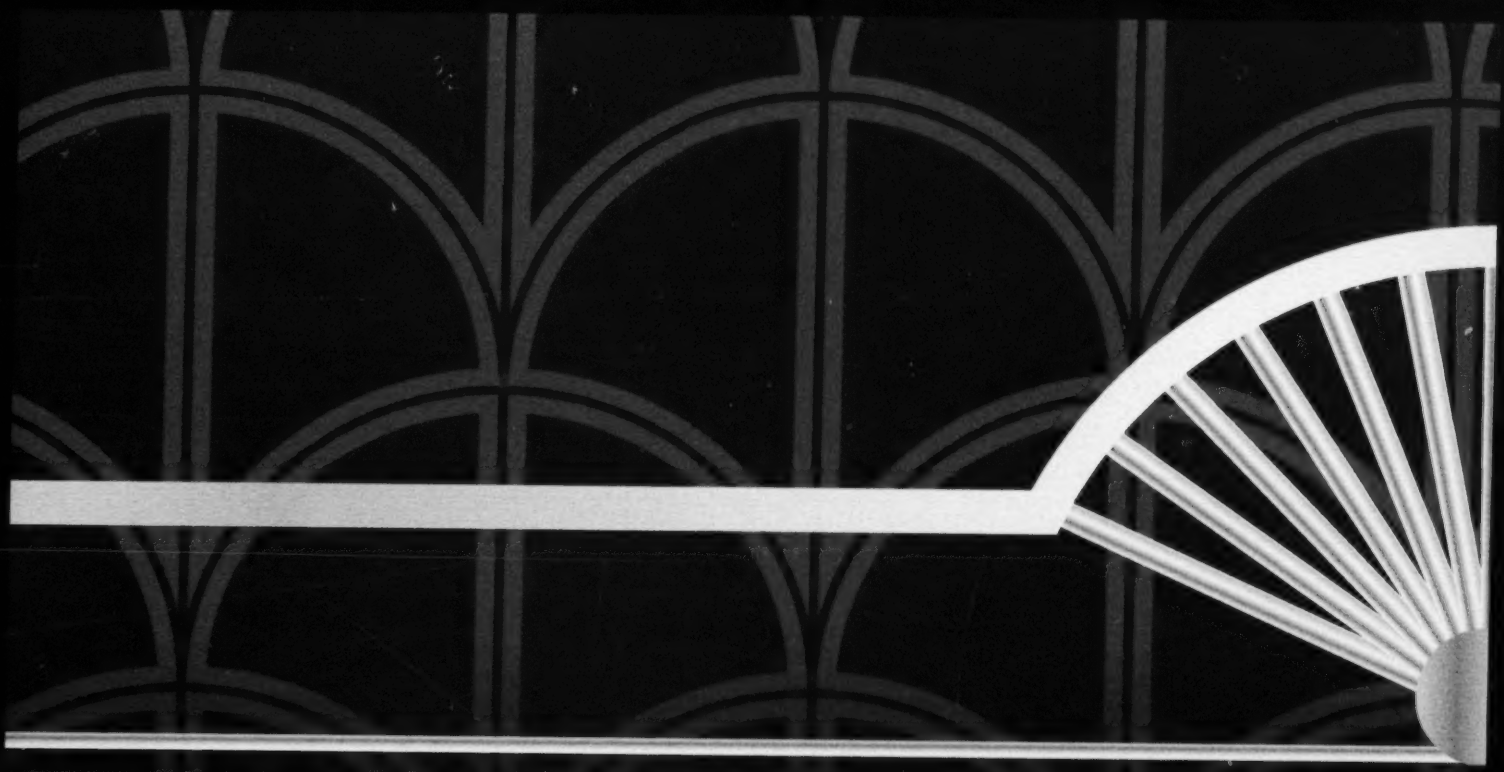
In addition to tours for the general public, the LAO also offers tours customized to seniors' groups, public service staff and English language learners. All tours and programs are presented in a nonpartisan way, and educational tours reinforce curricular learning at a variety of levels.

For those who prefer to explore on their own, things are about to get a lot more interesting. Expansion of our public facilities is on the horizon. A contemporary Visitor Centre, expected to open in the summer of 2015, will provide new and exciting ways for our guests to connect to their Legislative Assembly, including a 4-D immersive video on Alberta's parliamentary history and interactive displays and games for all ages. The centre is sure to capture the interest and excite the imaginations of visitors.

The LAO is committed to facilitating public engagement in the parliamentary system, but the power, as they say, truly lies in the hands of the people.

"The public has an important role to play in the evolution of governance in our province. The Legislative Assembly of Alberta is accountable to its citizens in its work, whether in the House or in committee, and as such the LAO ensures that all proceedings are accessible to the public so that they may educate themselves on matters of public importance."

Rhonda Sorensen, Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services



EMPOWERING

EMPLOYEES IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

To provide the tools, knowledge and resources needed to efficiently and effectively support Members in their representation of the public on provincial matters

"The heart and soul of every organization is its front-line employees, and constituency staff are an integral part of the LAO's front-line team."

David McNeil, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Constituency Learning and Development Seminars

Imagine a job where you witness democracy in action on a daily basis, where a visit from a local farmer with concerns about the effect that encroaching development is having on his cattle can become the impetus for provincial legislation, where provincial legislators and the citizens they represent intersect. Such is the job of a constituency office staff member.

"Our learning and development seminars are key to ensuring that constituency staff have the knowledge and the capability to provide a full suite of supports to their MLAs and constituents. The seminars bring together staff from across the province to connect with one another and LAO staff and managers. This opportunity allows all involved to put names to faces and to strengthen working relationships."

Cheryl Scarlett, Director of Human Resources, Information Technology and Broadcast Services

Often the first point of contact for concerned constituents, they play a key role in supporting the democratic process in the province of Alberta. They liaise with the public on behalf of their Members, providing answers, advice and direction on a multitude of matters. They also co-ordinate interactions between Members and their constituents.

Working in a constituency office – Alberta has over 87 located throughout the province – is a uniquely challenging job in part because of its reactive nature. Staff must be prepared to respond to whatever public inquiries emerge throughout the day. The ability to efficiently assess each situation and appropriately direct public questions is paramount to ensuring that Members are allocating their time in the most efficient way possible and focusing their efforts on matters within their influence. Constituency staff members are MLAs' greatest resources and as such must be well equipped, capable and knowledgeable.

This is where constituency learning and development seminars come in. The seminars bring together staff from across the province, many of whom may otherwise feel distanced from the LAO, to learn, collaborate and discuss common issues and solutions. Information sharing at the sessions leads to innovation and growth; likewise, professional development and skill advancement lead to new workplace efficiencies.

Over the course of the past decade the LAO has trained constituency office staff on the ins and outs of commonly used office software, the operation of the latest technology and office equipment, office security, health and safety and competency-related training. As well, the seminars always highlight the newest tools and services available to Members and constituency staff through the LAO.

In addition to providing practical job tools, the seminars include a mock debate in the Chamber and a tour, both of which provide insight into the parliamentary process, the routine of the House and the legislative aspects of a Member's role, elements rarely glimpsed from the distant vantage point of a constituency office but which are vital to staff's understanding of where they fit in the greater scheme of things.

While the seminar objectives — supporting constituency office operations, building awareness of processes and programs and further developing the skill sets of constituency staff — have remained the same for years, seminar agendas are always changing to reflect the dynamic and ever-shifting environment, evolving business practices and the distinct concerns of constituency staff.

Through learning and development seminars the LAO provides constituency staff with the tools they need to support their Members in facilitating the democratic process in Alberta.

"In addition to assisting constituency staff, the seminars are an important resource for LAO branches. Branches gain insight into what constituency office staff deal with on a daily basis, and this knowledge in turn helps us to package our services to better support them in fulfilling their responsibilities to Alberta's public."

Valerie Footz, Legislature Librarian

NAVIGATING

OUR MOVE

To ensure that the needs of the LAO clients and staff continue to be met to the highest calibre throughout the process of relocating from the Legislature Annex to the Edmonton Federal Building

The LAO's transition from the Legislature Annex to the Edmonton Federal Building (EFB) has long been in the works. Since 2008 the project's proposed timeline has been well documented, and like any move of this scale, it has not been without its share of challenges. On the surface the relocation may seem to be little more than a tale of moving boxes and a change of address on the organization's letterhead, but beneath lies a slightly different story. This is a story about the LAO, a complex organization of people with different talents and disciplines navigating the way and ensuring that the move to the EFB goes as seamlessly as possible.

2014: A Year of Major Milestones

November 26, 2014, was at the top of everyone's mind this year. This was the date that the EFB was to be deemed substantially complete and the point at which the building could finally be handed over. After this time and once an occupancy permit was issued, additional construction and installation of equipment and cabling could begin, workspaces could be made operational and staff could start to relocate.

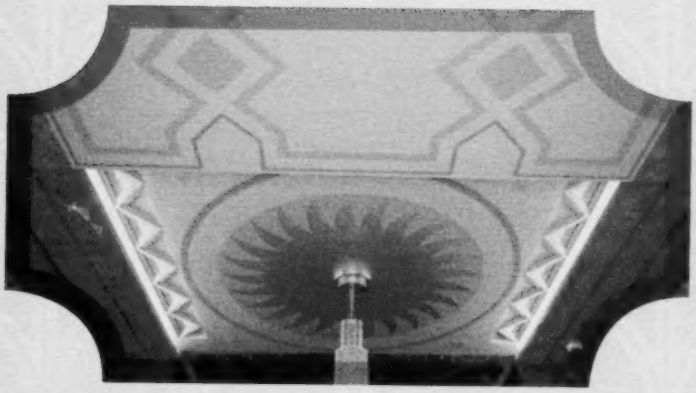
Certain spaces in the EFB required further development, namely the visitor centre, retail store, server room and the central equipment room to support committee activities. Contracts relating to the design of these specialty purpose spaces were completed this year.

The LAO rented a warehouse in west Edmonton where computer equipment, audiovisual equipment and broadcast equipment were delivered, assembled and tested. Just as soon as these items were constructed and checked at the warehouse, they were dismantled in order to be packaged and transported back to the EFB for final installation.

While 2014 saw a lot of activity related to the technological infrastructure of the EFB, work also continued to take place for the transition process for LAO staff. Late in the year, just as the first group of LAO staff began to work from the EFB, the Our Move intranet was launched. This forum enabled the LAO management team to communicate with staff, especially as the move quickly neared. The site is multimedia capable, so videos and photographs can be posted regularly as can timelines and trivia about the new space. The Clerk also writes a regular column and encourages staff to submit their questions or concerns using the comments and questions boxes on the site. Our Move is intended to be a one-stop information hub for all things related to the EFB. Updates will continue to be posted until well after the last person moves into the building.

Between Two Buildings: Managing Expectations

One of the major goals for the move to the EFB was to create efficiencies so that the LAO could better serve the MLAs and, ultimately, Albertans. Inevitably, there have



been overlaps between the needs of staff still working in the Annex and the needs of those who've already relocated. Timelines for property management issues and requests related to telecommunications and furniture were but a few aspects that made the process rather difficult to manage. The LAO's key priority has been to maintain consistent service throughout the move period so that all clients, regardless of their location, are given satisfactory service and that expectations are met until everyone is located in one place.

As the LAO management team continued their work behind the scenes, buzz about the ongoing construction, space assignments and completion date picked up pace. Progress updates were shared with staff primarily through their managers and the designated move coordinators for each branch. Additionally, a staff open house was planned for early 2015 in order to provide further information about the intricacies of the move project and how the physical transition would take place.

The Move Footprint

With the imminent move staff were asked to begin decluttering and to think carefully about how they will manage their records, equipment and supplies both before and after the move to the EFB. Giving this some consideration early in the process ensures that there is indeed a place (and a need) for all of the items kept in the new workstations.

Another positive offshoot of decluttering is the thought given to the environment and how staff will manage sustainable resources in the building as well as in their daily work.

Some unique facets of the EFB such as the living wall on the ground level of the building, the water processes throughout, the air quality thresholds and the green roof happened to receive gold accolades from LEED, but all of these enhancements may also encourage LAO staff to reduce their personal carbon footprint during this major transition and beyond.

The Sum of Moving Parts

A primary goal during this transition to the EFB is to continue to provide uninterrupted services to the 87 Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. Until the last of the branches are moved into the building, projected to occur in the fall of 2015, the LAO management team will strive to ensure that clients, staff and partners feel informed, engaged and supported throughout this process.

The LAO will continue to fulfill its role as the epicentre for nonpartisan services to Members, and the organization will stay the course with a clear vision for its future.

In the meantime, wherever possible, it would be best to generously apply a good dose of flexibility, creative problem solving, a good sense of humour and a positive attitude as we find our way over to our new home, the historical Edmonton Federal Building.

"From day one the goal was to involve staff in every step of the relocation, providing the necessary tools and support needed to welcome the change in a positive way."

Scott Ellis, Director of Financial Management and Administrative Services

FEATURED EVENTS

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER SWEARING-IN

Glen Resler, CMA, was sworn in as Alberta's seventh Chief Electoral Officer on March 13, 2014. An independent Officer of the Legislature, Alberta's Chief Electoral Officer oversees the administration of general provincial elections.

"This is an awesome responsibility and at times a formidable challenge, a challenge that I should hope would fall on the shoulders of an individual who has proven himself to be community-minded, public service oriented and knowledgeable of our province and its citizens. I am happy to say that we have found such an individual in Glen Resler."

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

ETHICS COMMISSIONER SWEARING-IN

On June 4, 2014, the Honourable Marguerite Trussler, QC, was sworn in as Alberta's fourth Ethics Commissioner. The Ethics Commissioner performs a variety of roles under the *Conflicts of Interest Act*, in particular, assisting MLAs in understanding their obligations under the Act.

"Ms. Trussler will draw from her wealth of executive and judicial expertise to effectively carry out her duties as Alberta's Ethics Commissioner and to ensure that our MLAs are held to the highest standards."

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

ETHICS COMMISSIONER FAREWELL

A farewell ceremony was held on June 9, 2014, in honour of Neil Wilkinson, who served as Alberta's Ethics Commissioner from 2008 to 2014.

"The Ethics Commissioner provides necessary and important counsel and support to MLAs as we fulfill our obligations to our constituents. It is a big job and one which was well served with Neil Wilkinson at the helm. Never heavy-handed and always pragmatic, Mr. Wilkinson brought a measured approach to the office."

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

A MEANINGFUL LIFE ART INSTALLATION

On Monday, August 25, 2014, a sculpture entitled *A Meaningful Life* was installed in the Legislature pedway. A collaboration between 24 artists with developmental disabilities and renowned Calgary artist Jeff de Boer, the sculpture features 24 original works of art, each depicting the artist's conception of what it means to have a meaningful life. The piece was installed in the pedway following a cross-province tour that began in 2013.

"Alberta is a place where we wholeheartedly embrace the notion that every individual, regardless of their ability or disability, can contribute to society in a positive and meaningful way. In essence, there is no better place than the Alberta Legislature to be the permanent home for this sculpture. This is the centre of democracy for our province and a place open to all."

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

COMPARATI

COMPUTER AND NETWORK EQUIPMENT	2014	2013	2012
Workstations	408	407	376
Printers	255	272	265
Servers	48	25	52
Laptops	328	350	303
Mobile Devices	415	391	350
Training Days	228	n/a	117
Printer Multifunction	126	123	—

*Server figures reflect virtualization

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION	2014	2013	2012
Contracts Processed	680	575	634
Total Commencements	195	189	330
Total Terminations	213	155	269
Payroll Transactions	12,865	12,825	12,435

FINANCIAL SERVICES	2014	2013	2012
Invoices Coded and Data Entered	17,776	16,925	17,533
Payments Issued	11,747	10,456	11,610
Items Evaluated for Compliance	50	57	78

Note: Financial statistics are based on the fiscal year April 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014.

VE STATISTICS

GIFT SHOP SALES	2014	2013	2012
Public Sales	101,118	99,519*	99,202
MLA Sales	257,305	269,709	240,989

*This figure has been updated from what was stated in the 2013 annual report as that figure incorrectly included GST. Note: Gift Shop sales are based on the calendar year.

HOUSE AND COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS	2014	2013	2012
Sitting Days	42	49	50
Bills Introduced	35	39	30
Petitions Presented	6	19	5
Tablings	518	801	671
Session and Committee Hours	329	472	408*
Committee Meetings	81	103	69

*Revised Total (previously reported as 283)

HOUSE AND COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS DOCUMENTATION	2014	2013	2012
Hansard Pages	1,322	2,070	2,128
Journals Pages	244*	615	508

*Reported figures include *Journals* pages from the second session of the 28th Legislature, which ran March 3, 2014, to May 8, 2014. Third Session reporting, which includes November 7 to December 10, 2014, will be included in the 2015 results.

INFORMATION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT	2014	2013	2012
Boxed Records for Approved Disposition – Constituency/MLA	31	25	406
Boxed Records for Storage – LAO	0	2	71
Boxed Records for Approved Disposition – LAO	18	7	10
Boxed Records for Approved Disposition – Other	0	0	80

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WEBSITE ACTIVITY	2014	2013	2012
Visits	1,380,790	1,015,242	928,448
Visitors	687,533	588,097	491,698
Average Hits per Day	3,782	2,721	2,518

LIBRARY SERVICES	2014	2013	2012
Library Reference Transactions	2,162	2,557	2,600
Legislature Information Line Transactions	1,282	1,181	1,611
Number of Times the Library Catalogue was Accessed	14,260	11,211	9,349
Number of Searches Conducted in the Library Catalogue	27,399	25,686	23,295
Loans of Materials from Collection	1,542	1,522	1,637
Items Used On-site	3,736	3,633	3,226

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	2014	2013	2012
Constituency Offices, Moved	3	5	28
Constituency Offices, New	3	1	8
Constituency Offices, Closed	1	1	1
Leases Processed (New or Renewals)	22	21	61
Telecommunications Services Installed or Moved	124	109	306
Telecommunications – Service Requests	796	400	1,560

SOCIAL MEDIA FACEBOOK

	2014	2013	2012
Average Monthly Impressions (Impressions refer to the number of times a post is displayed)	14,550	—	—
Average Monthly Reach (Reach refers to the number of people who received activity from the page)	6,050	—	—
Average Monthly Page Engagement (Engagement refers to the number of likes/comments/shares received in response to each post)	450	—	—
Lifetime Total Likes (since inception)	556	—	—

Note: The Legislative Assembly social media program began in the summer of 2012, and statistics were recorded beginning in 2014.

SOCIAL MEDIA TWITTER

	2014	2013	2012
Total Followers (since inception)	1,282	—	—
Average Tweet Engagement (retweets/favourites)	10.59	—	—

Note: The Legislative Assembly social media program began in the summer of 2012, and statistics were recorded beginning in 2014.

SUPPLIES PROCESSING

	2014	2013	2012
Direct Purchase Orders Issued	22	49	50
MLA Purchase Orders Processed	5,100	1,675	9,475
Other Requests Processed	—	—	7,975
Special Requests Processed	372	360	512
Supplies Orders Processed – Online Ordering System	334	187	0
Supplies Orders Processed – Manual	120	65	162

VISITOR STATISTICS

	2014	2013	2012
Attended Special Events	103,268	80,087	71,503
Participated in Programs	21,172	19,161	19,500
Observed Session	6,842	9,158	7,620
Participated in Tours	39,542	38,763	44,477

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OFFICE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2014

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AUDITOR GENERAL *Alberta*

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Legislative Assembly Office, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2014, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

OPINION

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Legislative Assembly Office as at March 31, 2014, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

[Original signed by Merwan N. Saher, FCA]
Auditor General
Edmonton, Alberta
July 8, 2014

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2014 (in thousands)	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	$31,087	$29,060
Accounts receivable and advances	292	402
Inventory held for resale	83	128
	31,462	29,590
Capital assets (Note 4)	4,022	3,411
	$35,484	**$33,001**
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$3,971	$3,518
Vacation pay liability	1,654	1,613
	5,625	5,131
Members' transition allowance liability (Note 6)	16,675	17,243
Net assets	13,184	10,627
	$35,484	**$33,001**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes In Net Assets

As at March 31, 2014 (in thousands)	2014	2013
Net assets at beginning of year	$10,627	$6,486
Net operating results	(60,314)	(56,755)
Net transfer from general revenues	62,871	60,896
Net assets at end of year	**$13,184**	**$10,627**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2014 (in thousands)

	2014		2013
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
REVENUES			
Gift shop sales, services and fees	$324	$409	$430
Other	–	109	179
	324	518	609
EXPENSES			
Voted:			
Alberta Member	–	–	12
Financial Management and Administrative Services	1,666	1,194	1,334
Government Members' Services	3,318	2,874	2,961
House Services	7,785	6,273	5,980
Human Resource Services	1,939	1,578	1,569
Independent Member's Services - Mr. Sandhu, MLA	–	8	–
Independent Member's Services - Mr. Allen, MLA	–	71	–
Independent Member's Services - Ms. Kennedy-Glans, MLA	–	4	–
Information technology Services	4,607	4,264	5,176
Legislative Committees	913	304	282
Legislature Library	2,739	2,479	2,354
MLA Administration	36,557	31,984	31,208
MLA Compensation Review		–	169
NDP Opposition Services	754	785	731
Office of the Speaker	586	560	552
Liberal Opposition Services	827	835	859
Visitor Services	2,468	2,290	2,133
Official Opposition Services	2,248	2,296	2,153
Special Funding	5,014	3,557	–
	71,421	61,356	57,473
VALUATION ADJUSTMENTS:			
Capitalization of Assets Expensed as Supplies (Note 3b)	–	(2,624)	(1,880)
Amortization of Capital Assets (Note 3b)	–	2,013	1,414
Provision for (reduction in) Member's Transition Allowance Liability (Note 6)	–	–	194
Provision for (reduction in) Vacation Pay Liability	–	41	158
Net Consumption of Inventory	–	46	35
Provision for Premium Adjustment Deposit Account	–	–	(30)
	–	(524)	(109)
	71,421	60,831	57,364
NET OPERATING RESULTS	**($71,097)**	**($60,314)**	**($56,755)**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2014 (In thousands)

	2014	2013
OPERATING TRANSACTIONS		
Net operating results	($60,314)	($56,755)
Add non-cash charges:		
Amortization of capital assets	2,013	1,414
Increase (decrease) in vacation pay liability	41	158
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable and advances	110	(70)
(Increase) decrease in inventory	46	35
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	453	1,480
Increase (decrease) in transition allowance liability	(569)	(12,505)
Cash used by operating transactions	(58,220)	(66,243)
INVESTING TRANSACTIONS		
Acquisition of capital assets	(2,624)	(1,880)
FINANCING TRANSACTIONS		
Net transfer from general revenues	62,871	60,896
Net cash provided	2,027	(7,227)
Cash, beginning of year	29,060	36,287
Cash, end of year	**$31,087**	**$29,060**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended March 31, 2014

NOTE 1 AUTHORITY

The Legislative Assembly Office (the "Office") is operated under the authority of the *Legislative Assembly Act*. Annual operating budgets are approved by the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services.

NOTE 2 PURPOSE

Within the traditions of parliamentary democracy as constitutionally established in Alberta, the Legislative Assembly Office will:

1. Support the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in carrying out the duties of office.
2. Support Members by providing services, advice, information and infrastructure required to carry out their roles as elected representatives.
3. Record the proceedings and maintain and preserve the records of the Legislative Assembly.
4. Inform and educate the public on behalf of Members and the institution of Parliament.
5. Provide a positive, productive, healthy and secure environment for Members and staff of the Assembly.
6. Support the Assembly in protecting its institutions and privileges.

7. Support the exchange of ideas/information among Parliaments.
8. Build partnerships with external clients in support of the institution of Parliament.

NOTE 3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

A) REPORTING ENTITY

The reporting entity is the Legislative Assembly Office, for which the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is responsible.

The Office operates within the General Revenue Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund is administrated by the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance. All cash receipts of the Office are deposited into the Fund and all cash disbursements made by the Office are paid from the Fund. Net financing provided from (for) General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

B) BASIS OF FINANCIAL REPORTING

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Expenses

Expenses represent the costs of resources consumed during the year in the Office's operations.

Valuation Adjustments

Valuation adjustments include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay and transition allowance.

Assets

Financial assets of the Office are limited to financial claims such as cash, advances to and accounts receivable from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Inventory held for resale is reported at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

Tangible capital assets of the Office are recorded at cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. An asset is deemed a capital item if its invoiced cost is $5,000 (or greater) per item or if an assembly of connected components makes a whole asset (inclusive of labor, shipping, consulting, etc). The amortization periods are as follows:

Computer hardware and software	3 years
Other equipment	5 years
Furniture	10 years

The Office follows government budgetary practices that allow funds from an operating budget to be used to purchase tangible capital assets. These purchases are included in expenses on the statement of operations but are then removed from expenses through a valuation adjustment and are capitalized and amortized over their useful lives.

The fair value of cash and accounts receivable and advances are estimated to approximate their carrying values.

Liabilities

Liabilities include all financial claims payable by the Office at fiscal year-end.

The Members' transition allowance is estimated based on Members' years of service and their most recent remuneration amounts. The annual charge is the amount that is estimated to have been earned by Members during the year.

The fair values of accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and Members' transition allowance are estimated to approximate their carrying values.

Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between the carrying values of assets held by the Office and its liabilities.

Canadian public sector accounting standards require a "net debt" presentation for the statement of financial position in the summary financial statements of governments. Net debt presentation reports the difference between financial assets and liabilities as "net debt" or "net financial assets" as an indicator of the future

revenues required to pay for past transactions and events. The Office operates within the government reporting entity, and does not finance its expenditures by independently raising revenues. Accordingly, these financial statements do not report a net debt indicator.

Financial Instruments

As the Office does not have any transactions involving financial instruments that are classified in the fair value category and has no foreign currency transactions, there are no remeasurement gains and losses and therefore a statement of remeasurement gains and losses has not been presented.

NOTE 4 TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (IN THOUSANDS)

	Furniture	Computer hardware & software	Other equipment	2014 Total	2013 Total
Estimated Useful Life	10 years	3 years	5 years		
HISTORICAL COST					
Beginning of Year	$3,315	$2,690	$4,578	$10,583	$8,979
Additions	35	1,012	1,577	2,624	1,880
Disposals	-	(220)	-	(220)	(276)
	$3,350	$3,482	$6,155	$12,987	$10,583
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION					
Beginning of Year	$2,660	$2,049	$2,463	$7, 172	$6,034
Amortization Expense	188	665	1,160	2,013	1,414
Effect of Disposals	-	(220)	-	(220)	(276)
	$2,848	$2,494	$3,623	$8,965	$7,172
Net Book Value at March 31, 2014	**$502**	**$988**	**$2,532**	**$4,022**	
Net Book Value at March 31, 2013	**$654**	**$641**	**$2,116**		**$3,411**

The Office does not apply the half year rule to any assets purchased during the fiscal year.

NOTE 5 EXPENSES INCURRED BY ALBERTA INFRASTRUCTURE (IN THOUSANDS)

The Office had the following transaction with Alberta Infrastructure for which no consideration was exchanged. The amount for this transaction is estimated based on the actual costs incurred by Alberta Infrastructure to provide the service. The estimated cost for the service is $3,799 for 12.390 usable m^2 (2013- $3,656).

NOTE 6 MEMBERS' TRANSITION ALLOWANCE LIABILITY (IN THOUSANDS)

The Office implemented a Members' transition allowance on October 1, 1998. The provisions of the allowance were established in accordance with the Members' Allowances Order (RMSC 1992, c. M-1, as amended, Section 9).

A transition allowance is paid to every Member at the time of dissolution of the Legislature unless they are re-elected in the next election. Members who resign their seats are also eligible for the allowance.

Under section 9, the amount paid for service commencing on or after March 20, 1989, is determined by multiplying three months salary, based on the average monthly salary for the three calendar years in which the person received their highest salary, by the number of years the person served as a Member on or after March 20, 1989. "Salary" is defined in section 9(1). For service periods prior to March 20, 1989, the allowance is calculated by multiplying the highest rate of a Member's monthly indemnity and expense allowances for one month for every year of service prior to March 20, 1989 with no restrictions. There is no credit for years of service for which the Member has previously received a payment under Section 9 or the predecessor section. Eligible recipients may elect to be paid the allowance over a period of up to four years.

In the event of death of an active Member, a transition allowance equivalent to the amount owed at passing is paid to the Member's estate.

	2014	2013
Liability at beginning of year	$17,243	$29,748
Total transition allowance payments	(568)	(12,699)
Total transition allowance expense	–	194
Liability at end of year	**$16,675**	**$17,243**
Voted expense	$0	$0
Valuation adjustment	–	194
Total transition allowance expense	**$0**	**$194**

Changes were made to the allowance effective April 23, 2012. Members will no longer receive credit for service after April 22, 2012. However, any amounts owed to Members for prior service, up to April 22, 2012, will be paid in the future when they cease to be a Member.

NOTE 7 DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS (IN THOUSANDS)

The Office participates in the following multi-employer pension plans: Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Office also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of $2,371 for the year ending March 31, 2014 (2013 - $2, 176).

At December 31, 2013, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $50,457 (2012 - deficiency of $303,423) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $1,254,678 (2012 - deficiency of $1,645,141). At December 31, 2012, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a deficiency of $12,384 (2012 - deficiency of $51,870).

The Office also participate s in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2013, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial surplus of $75,200 (2013 - surplus of $51,717) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of $24,055 (2013 -surplus of $18,327). The expense for these two plans is limited to the employer's annual contributions for the year.

NOTE 8 BUDGET (IN THOUSANDS)

EXPENSES	
2013-2014 budget (a)	$71,421
2013-2014 actual expenses (excluding valuation adjustments)	(61,356)
2013-2014 unexpended (excluding valuation adjustments)	**$10,065**

a) 2013-2014 Offices of the Legislative Assembly Estimates, presented March 7, 2013.

NOTE 9 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS (IN THOUSANDS)

The aggregate amounts payable in 2015 for unexpired contracts is as follows:

	2015	2014
Leased properties	$2,172	$2,082
Office equipment rentals	306	289
Consulting	504	665
	$2,982	$3,036

NOTE 10 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Schedule 1
Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object

Year ended March 31, 2014 (In thousands)

	2014		2013
	BUDGET (Note 8)	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
EXPENSES			
Salaries, wages and employer contributions	$29,782	$27,362	$24,826
Supplies and services	22,941	17,457	16,159
Grants	7	2	2
Payments to MLAs and Executive Council	18,691	16,535	16,486
TOTAL VOTED EXPENSES	**$71,421**	**$61,356**	**$57,473**

Schedule 2
Salary and Benefits Disclosure

Year ended March 31, 2014

	2014				2013
	Base Salary (1)	Other Cash Benefits (2)	Other Non-cash Benefits (3)	Total	Total
SENIOR OFFICIAL					
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly [4]	$275,159	$1,850	$3,948	$280,957	$344,149
SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM					
Senior Parliamentary Counsel and Director of House Services	195,516	1,850	61,211	258,577	255,881
Law Clerk and Director of Interparliamentary Relations	195,516	6,345	61,286	263,147	260,451
Director of Human Resources, Information Technology & Broadcast Services	192,888	9,240	30,994	233,122	260,432
Director of Financial Management and Administrative Services and Senior Financial Officer	150,036	1,850	41,796	193,682	188,166
Director of Visitor, Ceremonial, & Security Services and Sergeant-At-Arms	147,576	1,850	40,908	190,334	182,131
Legislature Librarian	123,972	1,850	32,472	158,294	151,230

[1] Base salary includes pensionable base pay.

[2] Other cash benefits include vacation payouts and lump sum payments. There were no bonuses paid in 2014.

[3] Other non-cash benefits include the Legislative Assembly Office's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, supplementary retirement plans, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans, WCB premiums, professional memberships and tuition fees.

[4] Automobile provided; no dollar amount included in other non-cash benefits.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION, ALBERTA BRANCH

SECRETARY'S REPORT

SUSTAINING STEWARDSHIP THROUGH LEARNING

The Legislative Assembly of Alberta is made up of esteemed individuals who have been democratically elected by the citizens of their respective regions. The responsibility of stewardship for the provincial parliamentary system is entrusted to these select few Members who, in order to keep apprised of current issues dominating the global conversation, not only keep an attentive ear to the ground in their constituencies but must also be open to learning from parliamentarians with more experience and expertise under their belts.

While an array of development opportunities are available to MLAs throughout their careers, the chance to take part in experiential learning events with fellow legislators from near and far is arguably the most beneficial and gratifying for the attendees.

In 2014 Alberta MLAs, as members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, took part in events hosted by the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas, l'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians and the National Conference of State Legislatures. MLAs also attended numerous conferences delivered by various chapters of the CPA throughout North America and abroad. Delegates participated in various forums where themes ran the gamut from good governance in the face of international economic pressure to better use of social media for improving engagement with the public, from the role of parliament in combating noncommunicable diseases to enabling persons with disabilities to participate in public and political life.

At each of the conferences relevant and timely business programs were presented, and the delegates were given the privilege to collaborate, interact and hear first-hand from their counterparts about the many unique economic challenges and social circumstances weathered in different parts of the world.

As Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and secretary of the CPA Alberta branch I too have opportunities to attend events where I am able to connect with my counterparts from across North America and beyond. In late January the Alberta delegation participated in the 31st Canadian Presiding Officers' Conference in our nation's capital. We attended question period and were officially recognized in the House of Commons Chamber. It was a pleasure to be hosted during this occasion by the Honourable Andrew Scheer, Speaker of the House of Commons, as well as by the Honourable Noël A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate.

In the fall I travelled to Minneapolis, Minnesota, to participate in the National Conference of State Legislatures' 2014 summit, where the NCSL's international program hosted a two-day event and the Canadian consulate hosted a reception in honour of the international delegates.

I am pleased to report that the CPA Alberta branch reciprocated the hospitality extended to us by our various national and international colleagues by welcoming the Western Australian parliamentary envoy during their tour of our region. On the Alberta leg of their western Canadian tour the nine-person delegation was seated in the Speaker's gallery and was formally introduced to the Assembly. During their visit the group was presented with overviews of the parliamentary and committee systems in Alberta, the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund and the role of the Official Opposition in Alberta.

Part of the responsibility of my office is to assist with various administrative aspects in support of the Members who wish to attend the CPA conferences on behalf of our Assembly. My staff helps to ensure that our delegates are sufficiently prepared for their travels and that they are briefed on the regional nuances of their destinations. Over the years it has been my pleasure to see how Members apply the knowledge acquired at each conference they attend during their careers.

Dr. David McNeil, Secretary of the Alberta branch of the CPA and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

BURSARIES

Bursaries are presented annually to nominees from the TUXIS Parliament of Alberta and the Alberta Girls' Parliament to foster interest in the parliamentary process among young Albertans.

RECIPIENTS

TUXIS Parliament of Alberta

Seth Burnard – Lacombe-Ponoka

Alberta Girls' Parliament

Safira Teja – Calgary-Bow

Megan Dorscheid – Grande Prairie-Smoky

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

PC (from 7/7/2014)
IND (to 7/6/2014)

Mike Allen

FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD BUFFALO

PC

Moe Amery

CALGARY-EAST

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Rob Anderson

AIRDRIE

Official Opposition House Leader (to 12/17/2014)

W (to 11/02/2014)
IND (from 11/02/2014)

Joe Anglin

RIMBEY-ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE-SUNDRE

Official Opposition Whip (to 01/01/2014)

W

Drew Barnes

CYPRESS-MEDICINE HAT

Official Opposition Whip (from 12/22/2014)

PC

Hon. Naresh Bhardwaj

EDMONTON-ELLERSLIE

Associate Minister of Services for Persons with Disabilities (to 9/15/2014)
Associate Minister of Persons with Disabilities (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Manmeet S. Bhullar

CALGARY-GREENWAY

Minister of Human Services (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Infrastructure (from 9/15/2014)

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Gary Bikman

CARDSTON-TABER-WARNER

ND

Deron Bilous

EDMONTON-BEVERLY-CLAREVIEW

ND Opposition Whip (from 10/22/2014)

AL

Laurie Blakeman

EDMONTON-CENTRE

Liberal Opposition House Leader

PC

Neil Brown, QC

CALGARY-MACKAY-NOSE HILL

PC

Pearl Calahasen

LESSER SLAVE LAKE

Legislative Secretary, First Nations Education and Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour (from 9/15/2014)

MEMBERS OF THE 28TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY | ALBERTA BRANCH

PC

Hon. Robin Campbell

WEST YELLOWHEAD

Government House Leader (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Wayne Cao

CALGARY-FORT

PC

Ron Casey

BANFF-COCHRANE

PC

Christine Cusanelli

CALGARY-CURRIE

PC

Hon. Cal Dallas

RED DEER-SOUTH

Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations (to 9/15/2014)
Legislative Secretary, Intergovernmental Relations (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Alana DeLong

CALGARY-BOW

PC

Hon. Jonathan Denis, QC

CALGARY-ACADIA

Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
Deputy Government House Leader (to 11/13/2014)

PC (sworn in 11/17/2014)

Hon. Gordon Dirks

CALGARY-ELBOW

Minister of Education (from 9/15/2014)

W (to 11/24/2014
PC (from 11/24/2014))

Ian Donovan

LITTLE BOW

PC

Hon. David C. Dorward

EDMONTON-GOLD BAR

Deputy Government Whip (to 9/23/2014)
Associate Minister of Aboriginal Relations (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Wayne Drysdale

GRANDE PRAIRIE-WAPITI

Minister of Transportation
Minister of Infrastructure (from 5/15/2014 to 9/15/2014)

ND

David Eggen

EDMONTON-CALDER

ND Opposition Whip (to 10/22/2014)
ND House Opposition House Leader (from 10/22/2014)

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

PC (sworn in 11/17/2014)

Mike Ellis

CALGARY-WEST

PC

Hon. Kyle Fawcett

CALGARY-KLEIN

Associate Minister of Recovery and Reconstruction for Southwest Alberta (to 5/26/2014)
Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour (from 5/26/2014 to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Jacquie Fenske

FORT SASKATCHEWAN-VEGREVILLE

W

Heather Forsyth

CALGARY-FISH CREEK

Leader of the Official Opposition (from 12/22/2014)

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Rod Fox

LACOMBE-PONOKA

PC

Hon. Rick Fraser

CALGARY-SOUTH EAST

Associate Minister of Recovery and Reconstruction for High River (to 9/15/2014)
Associate Minister of Public Safety (to 9/15/2014)
Legislative Secretary, Ambulance Services (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Yvonne Fritz

CALGARY-CROSS

PC

Hector G. Goudreau

DUNVEGAN-CENTRAL PEACE-NOTLEY

PC

Hon. Doug Griffiths

BATTLE RIVER-WAINWRIGHT

Minister of Service Alberta (to 9/15/2014)

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Jason Hale

STRATHMORE-BROOKS

PC (to 9/25/2014 - resigned)

Hon. Dave Hancock, QC

EDMONTON-WHITEMUD

Deputy Premier (to 3/23/2014)
Premier, President of Executive Council (from 3/23/2014 to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education (to 9/15/2014)

AL

Kent Hehr

CALGARY-BUFFALO

MEMBERS OF THE 28TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY | ALBERTA BRANCH

PC

Hon. Fred Horne

EDMONTON-RUTHERFORD

Minister of Health (to 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Doug Horner

SPRUCE GROVE-ST. ALBERT

President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance (to 9/15/2014)
Senior Adviser to the Premier on Internal Trade and Federal and Provincial Relations (from 9/15/2014)

PC (to 9/26/2014 - resigned)

Hon. Ken Hughes

CALGARY-WEST

Minister of Municipal Affairs (to 4/7/2014)

PC

Mary Anne Jablonski

RED DEER-NORTH

Deputy Chair of Committees

PC

Hon. Sandra Jansen

CALGARY-NORTH WEST

Associate Minister of Family and Community Safety (to 9/15/2014)

PC

Matt Jeneroux

EDMONTON-SOUTH WEST

PC

Hon. Jeff Johnson

ATHABASCA-STURGEON-REDWATER

Minister of Education (to 9/15/2014)
Ministerial Liaison to the Canadian Forces (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Seniors (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Linda Johnson

CALGARY-GLENMORE

AL

Darshan Kang

CALGARY-MCCALL

Liberal Opposition Whip

PC (to 3/17/2014 from 9/17/2014)
IND (from 3/17/2014 to 9/17/2014)

Hon. Donna Kennedy-Glans, QC

CALGARY-VARSITY

Associate Minister of Electricity and Renewable Energy (to 3/17/2014)

PC

Hon. Stephen Khan

ST. ALBERT

Minister of Service Alberta (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Heather Klimchuk

EDMONTON-GLENORA

Minister of Culture (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Human Services (from 9/15/2014)
Deputy Government House Leader (from 11/13/2014)

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

PC

Hon. Maureen Kubinec

BARRHEAD-MORINVILLE-WESTLOCK

Minister of Culture and Tourism (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Ken Lemke

STONY PLAIN

Deputy Government Whip (from 9/23/2014)

PC

Genia Leskiw

BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE

PC

Jason Luan

CALGARY-HAWKWOOD

PC

Hon. Thomas Lukaszuk

EDMONTON-CASTLE DOWNS

Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour (to 5/22/2014)

PC (sworn in 11/17/2014)

Hon. Stephen Mandel

EDMONTON-WHITEMUD

Minister of Health (from 9/15/2014)

ND

Brian Mason

EDMONTON-HIGHLANDS-NORWOOD

Leader of the ND Opposition (to 10/18/2014)

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Bruce McAllister

CHESTERMERE-ROCKY VIEW

PC

Everett McDonald

GRANDE PRAIRIE-SMOKY

PC

Hon. Ric McIver

CALGARY-HAYS

Minister of Infrastructure (to 5/6/2014)
Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Diana McQueen

DRAYTON VALLEY-DEVON

Minister of Energy (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Municipal Affairs (from 9/15/2014)
Government House Leader (from 9/15/2014 to 11/13/2014)

ND

Rachel Notley

EDMONTON-STRATHCONA

ND Opposition House Leader (to 10/22/2014)
Leader of the ND Opposition (from 10/18/2014)

MEMBERS OF THE 28TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY | ALBERTA BRANCH

PC

Hon. Frank Oberle

PEACE RIVER

Minister of Aboriginal Relations (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Energy (from 9/15/2014)
Deputy Government House Leader

PC

Cathy Olesen

SHERWOOD PARK

PC

Hon. Verlyn Olson, QC

WETASKIWIN-CAMROSE

Deputy Government House Leader (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development

PC

Bridget A. Pastoor

LETHBRIDGE-EAST

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Blake Pedersen

MEDICINE HAT

PC (sworn in 11/17/2014)

Hon. Jim Prentice, PC, QC

CALGARY-FOOTHILLS

Premier, President of Executive Council (from 9/15/2014)
Minister of Aboriginal Relations (from 9/15/2014)
Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Sohail Quadri

EDMONTON-MILL WOODS

Legislative Secretary to the Premier (from 9/15/2014)

PC

Hon. Dave Quest

STRATHCONA-SHERWOOD PARK

Associate Minister of Seniors (to 9/15/2014)

PC (to 8/6/2014 - resigned)

Hon. Alison Redford, QC

CALGARY-ELBOW

Premier, President of Executive Council (to 3/23/2014)

PC

Hon. Dave Rodney

CALGARY-LOUGHEED

Associate Minister of Wellness (to 9/15/2014)

PC

George Rogers

LEDUC-BEAUMONT

Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Bruce Rowe

OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

PC
Peter Sandhu
EDMONTON-MANNING

PC
Janice Sarich
EDMONTON-DECORE

W
Shayne Saskiw
LAC LA BICHE-ST. PAUL-TWO HILLS
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader (to 1/1/2014)
Official Opposition Whip (from 1/1/2014 to 12/22/2014)
Official Opposition House Leader (from 12/22/2014)

PC
Hon. Donald Scott, QC
FORT MCMURRAY-CONKLIN
Associate Minister of Accountability, Transparency and Transformation (to 9/15/2014)
Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education (from 9/15/2014)
Deputy Government House Leader (from 9/15/2014)

AL
Raj Sherman
EDMONTON-MEADOWLARK
Leader of the Liberal Opposition

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)
Danielle Smith
HIGHWOOD
Leader of the Official Opposition (to 12/17/2014)

PC
Hon. Richard Starke
VERMILION-LLOYDMINSTER
Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation (to 9/15/2014)

W
Pat Stier
LIVINGSTONE-MACLEOD

W
Rick Strankman
DRUMHELLER-STETTLER

AL
David Swann
CALGARY-MOUNTAIN VIEW

W (to 11/24/2014)
PC (from 11/24/2014)
Kerry Towle
INNISFAIL-SYLVAN LAKE
Opposition Deputy Whip (to 11/24/2014)

PC
George VanderBurg
WHITECOURT-ST. ANNE
Government Whip

MEMBERS OF THE 28TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY | ALBERTA BRANCH

PC

Hon. Greg Weadick

LETHBRIDGE-WEST

Associate Minister of Recovery and Reconstruction for Southwest Alberta (to 5/15/2014)
Minister of Municipal Affairs (from 4/7/2014 to 9/15/2014)

PC (to 3/14/2014)
IND (from 3/14/2014 to 9/28/2014 - resigned)

Len Webber

CALGARY-FOOTHILLS

W (to 12/17/2014)
PC (from 12/17/2014)

Jeff Wilson

CALGARY-SHAW

Official Opposition Deputy House Leader (from 7/1/2014 to 12/17/2014)

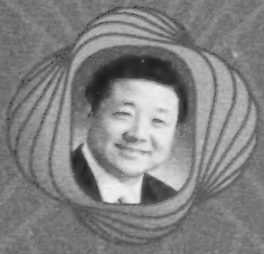
PC

Hon. Teresa Woo-Paw

CALGARY-HOGAN

Associate Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations (to 9/15/2014)
Associate Minister of Asia Pacific Relations (from 9/15/2014)

Speaker



PC

David H. Xiao

EDMONTON-MCCLUNG

PC

Steve Young

EDMONTON-RIVERVIEW

PC

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky

EDMONTON-MILL CREEK

THIS BUILDING
WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED
ON MARCH 8, 1958
BY
THE RT. HON. JOHN G. DIEFENBAKER, P.C.,
PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

Q.C., M.P.

CONFE

CANADIAN PRESIDING OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 2, 2014 | OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Delegates

Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, *Speaker, MLA, Edmonton-Mill Creek*
Mary Anne Jablonski, *MLA, Red Deer-North*

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)

MARCH 28 – 31, 2014 | MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA

Delegate

Moe Amery, *MLA, Calgary-East*

Delegate Report

I noticed a lot of changes at this meeting in terms of awareness and knowledge of our province. Almost every executive member was referring to me as the Member from Alberta, and it appeared they did their homework in researching information about our great province.

During the meetings there was dialogue among legislators from across the Americas on themes of regional interest, including the purpose of reinforcing parliamentary democracy, respect for dignity and human rights, peace, social justice and gender equality, environment and sustainable development and the full respect for the sovereignty of each member country.

I had the honour of meeting the Most Honourable Prime Minister of Jamaica, Ms. Portia Simpson Miller; Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Michael Peart; Deputy Speaker of the House, Lloyd B. Smith; the Minister of Tourism, Dr. Wykeham McNeil and Minister of State, Ms. Sharon Ffolkes-Abrahams.

FORUM 29: ENABLING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC AND POLITICAL LIFE

MAY 21, 2014 | HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Delegate

Kent Hehr, *MLA, Calgary-Buffalo*

Delegate Report

On Wednesday, May 21, 2014, I attended Forum 29, Enabling Persons with Disabilities to Participate in Public and Political Life, in Halifax, NS, as a delegate on behalf of the Alberta Legislature. Throughout the conference there were many engaging discussions regarding how to better encourage people with disabilities to run for public office. We discussed many policy platforms, which I found to be exciting and, in many cases, applicable to Alberta.

I was invited to be a guest panelist on experience in political life. The panelists included Kevin Murphy, MLA, Eastern Shore, and Speaker of the House; Edna Lee, Conservative candidate in the 2013 Nova Scotia provincial election Steve Estey, NDP candidate in the 2013 Nova Scotia provincial election; and myself. During this panel we discussed the inspiration behind getting involved in politics as well as the barriers and challenges we faced. There was an extensive discussion on how we as a society can get more persons with disabilities involved in political life. Using the panelists' experience, we debated the skills that play an intricate part in being successful in politics when you have a physical disability.

There was a mix of community activists, leaders, stakeholders and policy analysts all interested in prioritizing the need to make political life more accessible to those with disabilities.

ERENCES

INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (APF)

JULY 4 – 8, 2014 | OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Delegate

***George Rogers**, MLA, Leduc-Beaumont*

Agenda

- Opening speech by secretary general of la Francophonie, Mr. Abdou Diouf
- Presentations from APF members on a panel entitled Women and Youth as Vectors for Peace and Actors for Development in the Francophone Space
- Presentation and discussion of the report on APF activity over the past year
- APF financial update
- Information presented on the Council of Europe
- Presentation from the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Discussion of the APF strategic framework
- Discussion/Adoption of resolutions from various APF commissions
- Updates from APF regions:
  - Africa
  - North America
  - Europe
  - Asia Pacific
- Presentation on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis
- Discussion surrounding honoraria

Delegate Report

The 30th session of the APF was held in Ottawa from the 4th to the 8th of July, 2014. The Alberta delegation consisted of George Rogers, MLA for Leduc-Beaumont and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, and Chris Tyrell, assistant administrative secretary for the Alberta APF branch.

Meetings of the various APF commissions were held July 4 to 6. The Alberta delegation attended the plenary sessions held on July 7 and 8.

Opening remarks were made by the following:

- Andrew Scheer, Speaker, House of Commons
- Noël Kinsella, Speaker, Senate
- Andrée Champagne, Senator, APF president
- Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and Minister for la Francophonie
- David Johnston, Governor General of Canada

Following opening remarks it was announced that both Maine and New Hampshire had been admitted to the APF and Armenia had been promoted to full member status. The suspensions of the African nations of Guinea, Madagascar and Mali were removed, and they were placed on a two-year probationary period. It was also announced that the Ivory Coast's probation period had come to an end, and they were accepted as full members once more.

Mr. Diouf gave an update on the state of affairs of the African continent, highlighting several triumphs and issuing warnings concerning certain countries. This was followed by a general question and answer period.

The majority of the remainder of the day was dedicated to delegation presentations for the panel called Women and Youth as Vectors for Peace and Actors for Development in the Francophone Space.

Pascal Terrasse, APF parliamentary secretary general, delivered an updated APF activity report. This was followed by a financial report presented by Anne Brasseur from the Luxembourg delegation, to close the day's business session.

A proposed strategic framework was brought forward for discussion to open the second day of the plenary session. Several countries requested additional time to evaluate the framework as it had been developed only days prior at the various APF commission meetings. The framework debate was tabled.

Several resolutions prepared by the APF's commissions were brought forward and adopted.

Next, updates on APF activities in North America, Europe and Asia were presented. This was followed by a presentation on the dangers of AIDS and tuberculosis in the developing world.

As Senator Champagne's tenure as a Canadian Senator was nearly complete, the business session concluded with the transfer of the APF presidency from Senator Champagne to Senator Paul McIntyre.

STATE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS FOUNDATION (SLLF)

JULY 15 – 20, 2014 | CROATIA

Delegate

***Honourable Gene Zwozdesky**, Speaker, MLA, Edmonton-Mill Creek*

Agenda

- Opening ceremony of the 15th transatlantic forum
- The challenges of prospects for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Treaty (TTIP)
- Freedom, liberty and the pursuit of happiness: How are the United States of America and the European Union dealing with escalating unrest in Ukraine and the Middle East?
- Croatia and its constitution in a historical context

COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS' (CWP) CONFERENCE

JULY 20 – 21, 2014 | FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Delegate

***Mary Anne Jablonski**, MLA, Red Deer-North*

Delegate Report

It was an honour for me to represent Alberta at the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians' (CWP) conference in 2014. The CWP Conference was very well attended by representatives from all provinces and territories.

The mission of CWP is to assist Canadian women and girls to discover their political potential, experience the fulfillment of a career in public service and create a better society.

The presentations from four successful and inspiring women challenged each one of us to continue working hard on behalf of women and girls. The success of women in professions, trades and politics is well accepted and expected.

We heard from Elizabeth Weir, a Woman of Inspiration; Anne Bertrand, the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner for New Brunswick; Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark, acting director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre and chair of the sociology department at UNB; and Susanne Alexander, publisher of Goose Lane Editions.

We had in attendance the CWP international chairperson and Speaker of the Uganda Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga, and the Deputy High Commissioner for Uganda, Mumtaz Kassam. It was encouraging to recognize them as Commonwealth representatives; we have the same goal: to increase the number of women in politics.

(Edited for length)

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (CPA) CANADIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

JULY 20 – 26, 2014 | FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Delegates

***Drew Barnes**, MLA, Cypress-Medicine Hat*
***Mary Anne Jablonski**, MLA, Red Deer-North*
***George VanderBurg**, MLA, Whitecourt-Ste. Anne*
***Honourable Gene Zwozdesky**, Speaker, MLA, Edmonton-Mill Creek*

Agenda and Delegate Report

Following a welcome reception hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, MLA delegates and others attended several official meetings and six business sessions as follows:

- Standing with the people or standing for the people: A personal take on the challenging role of being a government backbencher
- The act of respecting end-of-life care: The importance of debating social issues in parliament
- Reforming New Brunswick's public-sector pension plans
- DND aid to civil authorities: Government role and lessons learned
- The Speaker in the schools program
- What the SCC reference means for the role of the Senate and possible reform

The meetings and sessions brought a great deal of thought-provoking ideas to the forefront. Sessions such as these allow all Members to go beyond their own boundaries and to learn how other provinces are dealing with similar if not identical situations.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CARIBBEAN, AMERICAS AND ATLANTIC REGION OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (CPA)

JULY 25 – AUGUST 2, 2014 | BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

Delegate

***David Xiao**, MLA, Edmonton-McClung*

Agenda

- Addressing the peculiar challenges of small island developing states
- The role of parliament in combating noncommunicable diseases
- A new development model: Effectively emerging from the global financial and economic crisis
- The viability of government subsidized health to developing nations
- Co-operation between government and opposition: A necessity?
- The role of youth in ensuring the survival of parliament democracy
- How Caribbean parliament can act as a catalyst for good governance in the face of international economic pressures
- Securing our borders; Our shared responsibility

Delegate Report

I was chosen to attend the 39th annual conference of the Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) from July 25 to August 2, 2014, as an observer on behalf of the Albertan and Canadian Branches of the CPA.

Many challenging issues were discussed at this conference: issues such as co-operation between government and opposition, how Caribbean parliaments act as catalysts for good governance in the face of international economic pressures, the role of parliament in combatting noncommunicable disease, a new economic development model for member states in the Caribbean region to effectively emerge from the global financial and economic crisis, the viability of government-subsidized health for developing nations, the role of youth in ensuring the survival of parliamentary democracy as well as strengthening a close co-operation between the parliaments comprising the CPA.

During the conference I had the opportunity to meet with various officials from the host country, Barbados. I attended the reception hosted by the Governor General of Barbados, His Excellency Sir Elliott Belgrave as well as the Prime Minster, the Honourable Freundel Stuart. I had a great conversation with the Prime Minster about possible areas of co-operation with Alberta, areas such as tourism and health care. I also spoke with Senator Darcy Boyce, Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister; the Honourable Richard L. Sealy, Minister of Tourism and International Transport; the Honourable Donville O'N. Inniss, Minister of Industry, International Business, Commerce and Small Business Development; the Honourable John Boyce, Minister of Health and Her Honour Senator Kerryann Ifill, president of the Senate.

I also had the opportunity to meet with Dr. William Shija, secretary general of the CPA, who is based in London, U.K., along with the ambassadors of Brazil and of Argentina to Barbados.

(Edited for length)

AMERICA REGION ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (APF)

AUGUST 4 – 7, 2014 | TORONTO, ONTARIO

Delegate

***Hector Goudeau**, MLA, Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley*

Agenda

- Official opening of business of the 30th session of the APF America Regional Assembly
- Joint session with the Youth Francophone Parliament of the Americas – Social media and political life of an engaged parliamentarian
- Special presentation from Steve Ladurantaye, news and government division, Twitter Canada – Better use of social media for improving engagement with the public: Strategies for parliaments and elected officials
- Closure of business of the 30th session of the APF America Regional Assembly

Delegate Report

It was my privilege to represent Alberta at the APF conference in Toronto along with representation from 12 other jurisdictions.

The annual meeting started with an update of the APF meeting held in Ottawa early in July 2014. Membership and potential members were reviewed and discussed. Financial statements and budgets were examined and approved. A follow-up to previous resolutions occurred, and future meeting locations were explored.

The balance of the conference discussions centred on social media. It was recognized that social media has many dimensions and presently is utilized very differently by various legislators across the American section of APF. Social media is also utilized quite differently amongst the various francophone communities across North America.

I had the pleasure of presenting on behalf of Alberta, emphasizing the increased integration of social media within Alberta francophone communities. Our discussion on social media was supplemented by guest speaker presentations and a visit to the Centre canadien de radiodiffusion.

The session ended with a discussion on the future themes that could be explored.

It is also worthy to note that in conjunction with our meeting the first youth parliament was occurring. These individuals were selected from the greater AFP region and included three representatives from Alberta. We had the opportunity to briefly work with them, explaining and discussing our roles as parliamentarians.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

AUGUST 19 – 22, 2014 | MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Delegate

***Pearl Calahasen**, MLA, Lesser Slave Lake*
***Linda Johnson**, MLA, Calgary-Glenmore*
***Jason Luan**, MLA, Calgary-Hawkwood*
***Bruce Rowe**, MLA, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills*
***Janice Sarich**, MLA, Edmonton-Decore*

Agenda and Delegate Report

As international delegates we were privileged to have had the opportunity to participate in the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), held in Minneapolis from August 19 to 21, 2014. The exchange of ideas was invaluable in building relationships with legislators from the U.S. and around the world. All Alberta delegates attended a wide range of receptions, tours, general sessions, issues forums and social events. Delegates engaged in dialogue on topics that have local and national implications with the many parliaments, stakeholders, et cetera. Topics included:

- Current trends in governance worldwide
- Energy: Perspectives from across the globe
- Education reform and a new education revolution
- Recruiting and retaining technical talent
- Crowd funding and simplifying the investment processes
- Critical infrastructure: Defending against multiple threats
- Five constituency engagement tips in 50 minutes
- The future of greenhouse gas emission
- Preparing for the worst: Beyond flooding
- Building a safe harbour for trafficking victims
- Infrastructure intersections: Transportation impacts on the whole economy
- Accountability in school choice
- Building the moral divide
- U.S. economic outlook
- Financing capital improvements: Options and emerging trends
- The new energy revolution
- Winston Churchill's language of leadership
- Transforming North America's energy outlook
- How technology is changing agriculture
- Trends in political polling

The National Caucus of Native State Legislators (NCNASL) was attended by Pearl Calahasen. The program of the NCNASL consisted of the following:

- Policy to address mascots and derogatory names
- Addressing childhood obesity in Indian countries
- Tribes and states: Partners for children luncheon
- Strategies to address Native American economic success

(edited for length)

PARTNERSHIP OF PARLIAMENTS (POP)

OCTOBER 12 – 20, 2014 | GERMANY

Delegates

***Christine Cusanelli**, MLA, Calgary-Currie*
***Yvonne Fritz**, MLA, Calgary-Cross*
***Jason Hale**, MLA, Strathmore-Brooks*
***Matt Jeneroux**, MLA, Edmonton-South West*

Agenda

- The German political system and its discontent: An overview
- The upper Chamber of German federalism: Function of the Bundesrat
- The German police force: A core task of each land – The education of the Sachsen-Anhalt Police Force
- Leopoldina: The German National Academy of Sciences as an outstanding research institution in academia
- Plant genetics and crop plant research: An overview
- Information about the federal ex situ Genebank and tour through the Genebank
- Information about co-operation with Canadian scientists during a lab visit

Delegate Report

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to attend the Partnership of Parliaments (POP) conference, held in Germany from October 12 to 20, 2014. I was pleased to lead the Alberta MLA delegation. In attendance were myself, Matt Jeneroux, MLA, Edmonton-South West; Jason Hale, MLA, Strathmore-Brooks and Christine Cusanelli, MLA, Calgary-Currie, along with various parliamentarians, dignitaries and the public.

Meetings were focused and proved to be highly successful due to the careful planning and preparation by Alfons Schoeps and Janneck Herre, both with Partnerships of Parliaments Germany. This valuable exchange strengthened relationships and created new opportunities for learning between German parliaments and Alberta delegates. Collective wisdom and practical insights were instrumental in making two worthwhile recommendations that require follow-up and action.

The first recommendation was made by Alberta delegates to the University of Applied Police Sciences in the city of Aschersleben, located in the province of Saxony-Anhalt, East Germany. It resulted in the university sending a letter to Rick Hanson, chief, Calgary Police Services, requesting that two German students work with Calgary police officers for learning opportunities.

The second recommendation was made by the Honourable Detlef Gürth, Speaker,

Saxony-Anhalt Legislature. At the parliamentary luncheon the Speaker asked German and Alberta delegates to consider hosting a Canada Day or Alberta Day celebration at the Saxony-Anhalt Legislature. Agreement was unanimous. Mr. Alfons Schoeps, executive director of POP Germany, was asked to bring it to the attention of Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker, Alberta Legislature.

The delegation toured and held meetings in the city of Berlin in West Germany and the cities of Aschersleben, Gatersleben, Seeland, Halle and Magdeburg in the province of Saxony-Anhalt in East Germany.

West Germany

Bundesrat: On arrival in Berlin the delegation received an official welcome from Alfons Schoeps and Janneck Herre, both with Partnership of Parliaments Germany. This meeting was held in the Berlin House of Representatives. A seminar was held to provide an overview of the German political system and its discontent. It was complicated and challenging to fully understand the governance model in Germany.

Berlin Wall: One of the most memorable experiences for delegation members was to be in Berlin when the 25th anniversary of the fall of the wall was celebrated by the people of Germany. The history of the Berlin Wall continues to impact the lives of Germans living in both East and West Germany today. We heard personal stories from many people on how the wall had caused tragedy and grief for their loved ones. It was significant that our delegation visited East and West Germany as we saw first-hand the differences in the economic viability for people. The healing of the German people continues to this day due to the fall of the Berlin Wall 25 years ago, which was a genuine triumph for Germans.

East Germany

University of Applied Police Sciences: A guided tour of the University of Applied Police Sciences in Saxony-Anhalt had a significant outcome. As a result of our meeting with Mr. Frank Knoeppler, rector, and 12 academic staff a letter was written to Rick Hanson, chief, Calgary Police Services. Maik Niesen, polizeirat with the Commissary of Practical Training, requested that two students from the university work with Calgary police officers. According to Niesen the intent was to "guarantee our students an all-encompassing and international education. We consider it to be necessary for them to gain work experience in a police department abroad in order to receive a general comprehension of methods of operation in other countries such as Canada since we prefer English-speaking countries."

Saxony-Anhalt Legislature: The Honourable Detlef Gürth, Speaker of the Saxony-Anhalt Legislature, was outstanding in his support of the Alberta delegation. The honourable Speaker hosted and accompanied the delegation members for three days in the province of Saxony-Anhalt. The delegation and the honourable Speaker were welcomed to Aschersleben, the oldest city in East Germany, by the Honourable Andreas Michelmann, Lord Mayor. In-depth discussions on the economy, development, justice and social issues identified many similarities and differences between municipal and provincial levels of government in our two provinces. Local media attended the function. The central German newspaper, Mitteldeutsche Zeitgung, wrote an article titled Kanadische Flagge weht am Aschersiebener Rathaus (Canadian Flag Flies at the Aschersleben City Hall). The article stated that "high ranking politicians from the prairie province of Alberta have been visiting Aschersleben. Passersby were wiping their eyes in front of city hall when they saw the Canadian flag flying next to Aschersleben's flag."

The Honourable Detlef Gürth, Speaker, extended a special invitation for the delegation to visit the plenary session of the Saxony-Anhalt Legislature in the city of Magdeburg. Official recognition of Alberta delegates was accompanied by a standing ovation in the Legislature. Elected officials were debating child poverty and the need for increased support for child care.

An official luncheon hosted by the Speaker included members of the delegation and legislative leaders of the different caucuses. Conversations were valuable and informative. They focused on energy, oil markets, the economy and the importance of making decisions that would have a positive effect on the quality of life for people in our respective provinces. A positive outcome from the exchange of ideas was a formal request by Detlef Gürth, Speaker, to Alfons Schoeps. He requested that discussions be initiated with the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker, regarding a Canada Day or Alberta Day celebration to be established in the province of Saxony-Anhalt.

(Edited for length)

CANADIAN REGIONAL SEMINAR OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (CPA)

OCTOBER 16 – 19, 2014 | HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

Delegates

***Joe Anglin**, MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre*
***Genia Leskiw**, MLA, Bonnyville-Cold Lake*

Agenda

- The ever-increasing administrative roles of the Speaker
- The role of our Canadian Houses in modern-day government
- House of Commons procedural reforms
- Ongoing professional development for Members
- Integration of immigrants

Delegate Report

Forty delegates attended the three-day event. All 10 provinces and two territories were represented.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

The welcome reception was hosted by the Honourable Kevin Murphy, MLA, Speaker of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly. At this reception MLA Genia Leskiw presented Speaker Murphy with a gift from Speaker Gene Zwozdesky.

All business sessions were held in the Province House.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

We were welcomed by Speaker Murphy, who started the day with opening remarks. Official photographs were taken in the Red Chamber. Following the official photo we were treated to a tour of Province House.

On Friday we took part in three business sessions. The topics were as follows:

- The ever-increasing administrative role of the Speaker
- The role of our Canadian Houses in modern-day government
- House of Commons procedural reforms

Genia Leskiw chaired the business session on House of Commons procedural reforms and introduced the guest speaker, Member of Parliament Joe Preston.

OCTOBER 18, 2014

Two further business sessions were held for delegates on October 18.

- Ongoing professional development for Members
    - Presenters: John Nilson, MLA, Saskatchewan, and Sylvain Gaudreault, MNA, Quebec
- Integration of immigration
    - Presenters: Gery Sklavounos, MNA, Quebec, and Elizabeth Wozniak, an immigration lawyer based in Halifax

The great thing about these CPA seminars is having the opportunity to interact with parliamentarians from across the country and across political climates.

(Edited for length)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)

NOVEMBER 3 – 5, 2014 | ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY

Delegate

***Moe Amery**, MLA, Calgary-East*

Agenda

- Working session of the Committee on Health and Social Protection
    - Ebola virus
    - Integration of public health policies in the Americas
    - Chronic diseases
- Working session of the Committee on Economy, Trade, Labour, Competitiveness and Trading Blocs
    - Social economy
- 12th annual meeting of the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas
    - Women Parliamentarians of the Americas and the post-2015 development agenda
    - The impact of climate change on women
    - Women's sexual and reproductive rights
- Working session of the Committee of Democracy and Peace
    - Arms trade in the Americas
    - COPA's electoral observation missions
- Opening ceremony
- Conference – Speech by the president of the Republic of Paraguay
- General assembly of COPA

Delegate Report

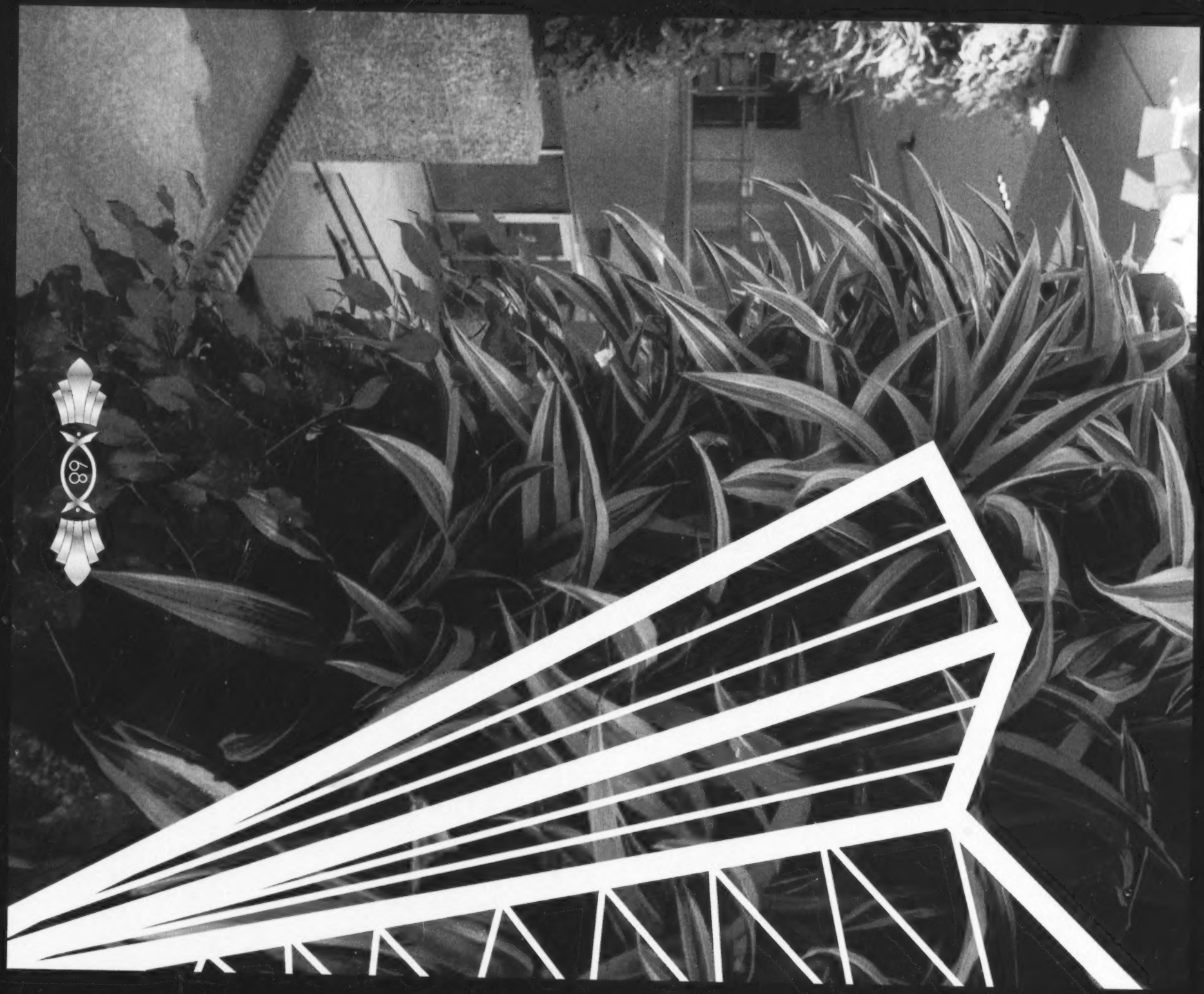
The 13th general assembly of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) was held in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, on the 3rd, 4th and 5th of November, 2014. The three days of intense meetings covered a lot of topics and issues in addition to having world-renowned guest speakers and political leaders from the government of Paraguay, including the president of the National Congress,

president of the Chamber of Representatives, vice-president of Paraguay and second vice-president of the Supreme Court.

There were many topics discussed at the conference. Ebola dominated a good part of the discussion at the beginning of the conference. A guest speaker from the Paraguay Ministry of Health outlined the steps that are being taken to fight the disease. Other health issues such as obesity, diabetes, chronic diseases, transmittable diseases, et cetera were discussed.

The banner theme for the conference was Sustainable Development Challenge for the Americas. President Zulma Gómez, in her opening address to delegates from over 30 countries, said that as members of COPA we must exchange ideas and experiences as to how we come up with the most effective ways to deal with poverty. Other various authorities and experts presented on different topics such as the environment, human rights, public health, education, economy, citizen security and democracy.

(Edited for length)



INTERPARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

The Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees, Deputy Chair of Committees and staff of the Legislative Assembly Office liaise with Members and staff of other parliaments and with other representatives of foreign countries. In 2014 they welcomed the following visitors:

JANUARY 22

MR. JIM SHIELDS

Finance Director of Robert Burns World Federation

MARCH 10

MR. NEIL FERRER

Consul General of the Republic of the Philippines

MARCH 31

MR. ARVE KAMBE

Chair of the Norwegian Standing Committee on Labour and Social Affairs

APRIL 7

HIS EXCELLENCY PISAN MANAWAPAT

Ambassador of Thailand

MR. DENNIS ANDERSON

Honorary Consul General of Thailand

MR. YOTHIN TONGPENYAI

President of PTTEP Canada Ltd.

APRIL 9

MR. JEAN-CHRISTOPHE FLEURY

Consul General of the Republic of France

MAY 5

HIS EXCELLENCY GIAN LORENZO CORNADO

Ambassador of the Italian Republic

MAY 7

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. TUNCAY BABALI

Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey

MAY 26

HER EXCELLENCY GITA KALMET

Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia

JUNE 18

HIS EXCELLENCY FAHAD MOHAMED YOUSUF KAFOUD

Ambassador of the State of Qatar

JUNE 23

MS. SUTTHILUCK SA-NGARMANGKANG

Consul General of Thailand

JUNE 25

HER EXCELLENCY NORMA ESTER NASCIMBENE

Ambassador of the Argentine Republic

JULY 14

MR. RYOSAKU TAMURA

Consul General of Japan

AUGUST 25

HIS EXCELLENCY RAFAEL BARAK

Ambassador of Israel

NOVEMBER 6

HER EXCELLENCY LOUISE HAND

Australian High Commission

NOVEMBER 10

MR. KRZYSZTOF OLENDZKI

Consul General of Republic of Poland

DECEMBER 3

HIS EXCELLENCY NORIHIRO OKUDA

Ambassador of Japan

DECEMBER 8

HIS EXCELLENCY ZHAOHUI LUO

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China

DECEMBER 9

MS. MARY NDLANGISA

Leader of the Eastern Cape Delegation

OBITU

JULY 23, 1930 – NOVEMBER 12, 2014

ROBERT KEITH ALEXANDER

Mr. Alexander was first elected on November 2, 1982, and served until November 5, 1985. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Edmonton-Whitemud.

During his term of office Mr. Alexander served on various committees:

- Select Standing Committee on Law and Regulations (1983-1985)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (1983)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (1983-1985)
- Select Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act (1983-1985)

Mr. Alexander was also a former champion amateur golfer whose many victories secured him a place in both the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 1985 and the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame in 1986.

OCTOBER 8, 1929 – OCTOBER 17, 2014

BILL WASYL DIACHUK

Mr. Diachuk was first elected on August 30, 1971, and served until May 7, 1986. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Edmonton-Beverly.

During his terms of office Mr. Diachuk served as Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees from 1972 to 1975. He also served as Minister Responsible for Workers' Health, Safety and Compensation from 1979 to 1986.

Mr. Diachuk also served on numerous committees, including:

- Chair, Select Committee to Receive Representations and Recommendations as to the Operations of the Workmen's Compensation Act (1972-1973)
- Chair, Select Special Committee on the Workers' Compensation Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act (1983-1984)
- Select Committee on Communal Property (1972)
- Select Committee on Regulations (1973-1974)
- Select Standing Committee on Law and Regulations (1974-1976, 1979-1980)
- Select Standing Committee on Law, Law Amendments and Regulations (1972-1973)
- Select Standing Committee on Private Bills (1974-1975)
- Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, Standing Orders and Printing (1972-1973)
- Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing (1975-1978)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (1981-1982)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (1975-1985)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs, Agriculture and Education (1972-1973)
- Select Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act (1977-1978)
- Special Committee to Prepare and Report Lists of Members to Compose the Select Standing Committees (1975-1978)

In addition to his service with the Legislative Assembly, he served as a separate school trustee, volunteered with numerous organizations and associations, assisted farmers in Brazil in setting up sustainable herbal tea crops and helped build a children's park and lung clinic in Lviv, Ukraine.

Over the years Mr. Diachuk has received many honours, including the Michael Luchkovich award, the Shevchenko medal, the Stars of Alberta award and was made an officer brother within the Order of St. John's.

OCTOBER 8, 1953 – AUGUST 18, 2014

ANDREW HUTTON

Mr. Hutton was first elected on March 12, 2001, and served until November 21, 2004. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Edmonton-Glenora.

During his term of office Mr. Hutton served on numerous committees, including:

- Chair, Select Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund (2001 to 2004)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (2001 to 2004)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (2001)

Prior to being elected, he was the executive director of the Glenrose Foundation from 1998 to 2000 and held various roles within the Alberta civil service for almost 20 years. Mr. Hutton believed in giving back to the community and worked with several

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charities and organizations, including the Kidney Foundation and the United Way.

Most recently Mr. Hutton served as the Director of U.S. Trade and Investment in the Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations.

DECEMBER 29, 1956 – MARCH 25, 2014

JONATHAN JOSEPH LORD

Mr. Lord was first elected on March 12, 2001, and served until November 21, 2004. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Calgary-Currie.

During his term of office Mr. Lord served on the following committees:

- Select Standing Committee on Private Bills (2001-2004)
- Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing (2001-2004)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (2001)

In addition to his service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, he also served two terms as an alderman for the city of Calgary from 1995 to 2001.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1949 – MAY 13, 2014

HONOURABLE RONALD G. (RON) STEVENS

Mr. Stevens was first elected on March 11, 1997, and served until May 15, 2009. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Calgary-Glenmore for the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta.

During his terms of office Mr. Stevens served as Minister of Gaming from March 19, 2001, to November 24, 2004; Minister of Justice and Attorney General from November 25, 2004, to March 12, 2008; Deputy Government House Leader from November 26, 2004, to November 5, 2007; Deputy Premier from June 27, 2007, to May 15, 2009; and Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations from March 13, 2008, to May 15, 2009.

Mr. Stevens also served on numerous committees:

- Select Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund (1997-2000)
- Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing (Chair 1997-2000, Member 2008-2009)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (1997-1999)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (1997-2001)
- Select Special *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* Review Committee (1998-1999)
- Most recently Mr. Stevens served as a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench

MARCH 18, 1929 – NOVEMBER 2014

HENRY WOO

Mr. Woo was first elected on March 14, 1979, and served until May 7, 1986. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Edmonton-Sherwood Park.

During his terms of office Mr. Woo served on the following committees:

- Select Standing Committee on Law and Regulations (1979-1985)
- Select Standing Committee on Private Bills (1979-1980)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (1979-1983)
- Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs (1979-1985)

Mr. Woo had a varied career, including serving in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the RCMP.

He was invested as a member of the Order of Canada in 1990 and received the Queen Elizabeth II diamond jubilee medal in 2012.